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**SPECIAL CONSUMER NOTICE
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NOTICE

On 1 June 1987 FBIS will begin publication of reorganized and renamed DAILY REPORTS. The following list details the changes being made in the eight volumes.

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| I. CHINA DAILY REPORT | Contents unchanged |
| II. EASTERN EUROPE DAILY REPORT | Contents unchanged |
| III. SOVIET UNION DAILY REPORT | Contents unchanged |
| IV. EAST ASIA DAILY REPORT | Renamed; formerly ASIA & PACIFIC DAILY REPORT; contents unchanged |
| V. NEAR EAST & SOUTH ASIA DAILY REPORT | Renamed; formerly MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA DAILY REPORT; contents include:
Middle East & South Asia Review
Inter-Arab Affairs
Islamic Affairs
Palestinian Affairs
OPEC Affairs
South Asian Regional Affairs
Arab Africa
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Syria
South Asia
Afghanistan
Bangladesh
India
Iran
Maldives
Nepal & Bhutan
Pakistan
Sri Lanka |
| VI. LATIN AMERICA DAILY REPORT | Contents unchanged |

(continued on back of report)

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Soviet Union

Vol III No 077

22 April 1987

USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT**

Disarmament Delegation Arrives in Geneva	AA	1
Bogachev Says U.S. Eager To Deploy ASAT System	AA	2
Nuclear Explosions 19 Apr for 'Civilian Purposes'	AA	3
Engineer on Explosions [SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 21 Apr]	AA	3
Solton Examines Need for Mutual Verification	AA	4
Primakov Interviewed on Gorbachev Proposals [Bratislava PRAVDA 14 Apr]	AA	5

COMMUNIST RELATIONS

Warsaw Pact Forces Military Council Session Held [KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 19 Apr]	BB	1
Gorbachev Expected at May Pact Meeting in GDR [Hamburg DPA]	BB	1
Antonov Chairs CEMA Machine Building Meeting [IZVESTIYA 28 Mar]	BB	1

WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

Gerasimov Foreign Ministry News Conference 21 Apr	CC	1
U.S. Health Cooperation	CC	1
DRA Rebel Resistance	CC	1
Palestinian Unification	CC	2
'Top Priority' 17 Apr Reviews Shultz Visit [Kuznetsov, Bogdanov, Plekhanov]	CC	2
Bovin Answers Readers' Questions on World Issues [IZVESTIYA 16 Apr]	CC	6

UNITED STATES & CANADA

PRAVDA Views U.S. Reactions to Shultz Moscow Talks [Can, 18 Apr]	A	1
Correction to Shultz Arrival on Moscow Visit	A	1
State Department Denies Visas to USSR Journalists	A	2
PRAVDA 'Rejoinder' Notes Reagan Remarks on Israel [Demchenko, 21 Apr]	A	2
IZVESTIYA Cites Congressman Wright on USSR Talks [20 Apr]	A	3
TV Linkup To Feature USSR, U.S. Legislators [TRUD 16 Apr]	A	4

SOUTH ASIA

Dobrynin Receives Indian Friendship Society Chief	D 1
[PRAVDA 21 Apr]	
Ambassador Hosts Reception	D 1
DRA National Reconciliation Process Continues	D 2
DRA Solidarity Week Marking Revolution Begins	D 2
Bangladesh Communist Party Congress Concludes	D 4
[PRAVDA 13 Apr]	

SOUTHEAST ASIA & PACIFIC

Vietnam's Nguyen Van Linh Visits Joint Project	E 1
[PRAVDA 21 Apr]	
PRAVDA Reports CPSU Delegation Visit to Vietnam [17 Apr]	E 1
PRK National Reconciliation Move Seen as Goodwill	E 1
Rogachev, Petrovskiy Meet New Zealand Delegation	E 2

EASTERN EUROPE

Reportage on Jaruzelski Moscow Visit, Talks	F 1
Delegation Members Noted	F 1
Cooperation Document Signed	F 1
Talks With Gorbachev	F 1
[PRAVDA 22 Apr]	
Gorbachev Speaks at Luncheon	F 3
[PRAVDA 22 Apr]	
Jaruzelski Reply Speech	F 8
[PRAVDA 22 Apr]	
Luncheon Guests Noted	F 11
Talks With PZPR Officials	F 11
Kamentsev Meets With Gwiazda	F 11
[PAP]	
Ceremony at Polish Embassy	F 12

WESTERN EUROPE

Ryzhkov Receives Luxembourg Foreign Minister Poos	G 1
Shevardnadze Meets With Poos	G 2
Shevardnadze Receives French Ambassador 20 Apr	G 3
Zagladin, Delegation Hold Talks in Stockholm	G 3
Arrive 6 Apr	G 3
Received by Foreign Minister	G 3
[IZVESTIYA 8 Apr]	
Meet With Swedish Officials	G 4
[IZVESTIYA 9 Apr]	
Zagladin Holds News Conference	G 5
Stockholm Reports on Conference	G 6
[Stockholm]	
Delegation Tours Industries	G 7
Delegation Departs 11 Apr	G 8
Anniversary of Finnish Friendship Treaty Observed	G 8
Presidium, Koivisto Greetings	G 8
[IZVESTIYA 6 Apr]	
TASS Views Treaty	G 9
[Alekseyev]	

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Syria's Al-Asad To Arrive in Moscow 23 Apr [Kuwait KUNA]	H 1
Council's National Day Message to Syria's Al-Kasm [PRAVDA 17 Apr]	H 1
PRAVDA Notes National Day [Peresada, 17 Apr]	H 1
Defense Officials Meet Algeria's Chelloufi [Algiers]	H 2
KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Notes Yefimov Return From Algeria [17 Apr]	H 2
Vorontsov Confers With Iranian Ambassador [Tehran IRNA]	H 2
Morocco's King Hassan on Soviet Mideast Role [IZVESTIYA 14 Apr]	H 3
Mauritanian Fisheries Minister Arrives for Session	H 3
Official Religious Delegation Visits YAR [IZVESTIYA 17 Apr]	H 3
Grechkov on U.S. Attempts to 'Undermine' Libya	H 4

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Further Details on Ryzhkov-Musokotwane Talks [PRAVDA 12 Apr]	J 1
Departs for Pyongyang [IZVESTIYA 14 Apr]	J 2
Mozambique Leadership's Anniversary Greeting [PRAVDA 31 Mar]	J 2
Foreign Ministry Messages [IZVESTIYA 2 Apr]	J 3
Komsomol, Mozambique Group Sign Protocol [Maputo]	J 4
IZVESTIYA Interviews ANC Official on RSA Future [7 Apr]	J 4
Briefs: Drilling Agreement With Guinea-Bissau	J 6

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

Joint Statement on Voskanyan Trip to Peru [IZVESTIYA 10 Apr]	K 1
PRAVDA Views Papal Visit to Chile, Ramifications [Listov in PRAVDA 9 Apr]	K 2

USSR NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Yeltsin Assesses Progress of Restructuring [MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA 14 Apr]	R 1
---	-----

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Radical Reforms Urged in Pricing Policy [Petrakov in SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA 3 Apr]	S 1
---	-----

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Work of Grain Product Ministries Criticized [PRAVDA 7 Apr]	T 1
Media Covers 9-20 Apr Agricultural Work	T 3

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

TASS Notes Launch of Progress-29 Space Ship	U	1
TASS Updates Activities of Mir Cosmonauts	U	1
Academician Kotelnikov Views Space Research Plans [PRAVDA 11 Apr]	U	1
Uzbek Academy of Sciences Holds Annual Meeting	U	3
Nuclear Specialist Legasov Discusses AES Safety	U	3
Official Views Joint Commercial Launch Prospects	U	4

MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

Ethnic Diversity of Armed Forces Viewed [Filatov in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 28 Mar]	V	1
Military Leaders Sign General Fomin Obituary [KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 17 Apr]	V	6

LD211322 Moscow TASS in English 1303 GMT 21 Apr 87

"The Soviet delegation arrived in Geneva so as to continue working together with the U.S. representatives on the preparation of a joint draft treaty on the elimination of Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe.

"Now it is precisely in this area of the negotiations on nuclear and space arms that prerequisites for decisive progress towards agreement emerged due to the far-reaching initiatives put forth by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in the statement of February 28, as well as in his speech of April 10 in Prague.

"The Soviet side favours immediate conclusion of a separate treaty on the elimination of Soviet and American medium-range missiles in Europe in accordance with the formula worked out to this end at the Reykjavik meeting.

"We are in favour of agreeing on the problem of medium-range missiles in a linkage with operational-tactical missiles and are prepared -- as soon as a treaty on medium-range missiles is signed -- to withdraw our operational-tactical missiles from Czechoslovakia and the GDR. In so doing the Soviet Union agrees to eliminate in a few months or within about a year all the remaining operational-tactical missiles.

"The new Soviet initiatives on the question of eliminating medium-range missiles and operational-tactical missiles in Europe open the way to lowering the level of military confrontation on the continent and are fully in keeping with the interests of European as well as other countries of the world. The above mentioned proposals of the USSR represent an example of new political thinking and provide yet another chance for a drastic turn for the better in international relations. The task is that this chance is not to be missed.

"During the recent negotiations in Moscow with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz the Soviet side also proposed elaborating 'key provisions' relating to strategic offensive arms and the ABM issues. It is our assumption that together with the signing of a treaty on medium-range missiles they could become the subject of an accord at the highest level and the basis upon which legally binding agreements between the USSR and the United States would be prepared.

"In this connection the Soviet side proceeds from an indispensable linkage between solving the question of strategic offensive arms and complying with the ABM Treaty. At the talks in Moscow compromise solutions ensuring progress were proposed to the U.S. side in the ABM area.

"All that creates a good and promising basis for constructive progress in the Geneva negotiations. It is necessary to make use of the opening opportunities and to work vigorously with a desire to look for and quickly find mutually acceptable solutions in the interests of putting an end to military rivalry and radically lowering the level of nuclear confrontation. It is possible to have a treaty on the elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe already this year. It is with these instructions that the Soviet delegation has arrived in Geneva and we are entitled to reciprocity from the U.S. side".

BOGACHEV SAYS U.S. EAGER TO DEPLOY ASAT SYSTEM

LD211639 Moscow TASS in English 1455 GMT 21 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 21 TASS -- By TASS military writer Vladimir Bogachev:

The Pentagon is opening a new channel for the arms race in space by deploying an air launched anti-satellite (ASAT) complex starting with 1987. In a letter to THE WASHINGTON POST, U.S. Undersecretary of the Air Force James McGovern asserts that "the need for a U.S. ASAT is more compelling than ever." "We cannot afford to wait," he writes.

What is it that prompted this letter of a Pentagon representative? As is known, the United States is a pioneer in the creation of anti-satellite systems. Back in October 1959, a U.S. missile launched from the B-47 bomber intercepted the "Explorer-6" satellite. In the 60s the United States (?was the first) to deploy anti-satellite systems, on Kwajalein and Johnston Islands in the Pacific. Those systems were equipped with large yield nuclear (?warheads). Those warheads were removed from the anti-satellite systems in 1975, after hurricane Celeste inflicted considerable damage on the missile bases and experts pointed out that the explosion of those nuclear charges can throw into disarray the U.S. communications system in the Pacific. But work to create anti-satellite systems has not been stopped in the United States if only for a single day. The Pentagon held two test flights of the ASAT complex in 1984 alone. The new generation of U.S. anti-satellite systems is to be deployed on 36 F-15 planes.

The United States broke off the talks on anti-satellite armaments in 1979 and has so far been rejecting all Soviet proposals to resume them. The Soviet Union proclaimed its readiness to conclude with the United States an agreement banning tests of all anti-satellite systems, calling for renunciation of the deployment of new anti-satellite weapons and destruction of all the existing such weapons. The Soviet Government has adopted a decision not to be the first to put into space any anti-satellite systems as long as other states, including the U.S., refrain from deploying such armaments in space. The Soviet Union's proposals to resolve the question about anti-satellite systems are constantly rejected by the Washington administration.

In conditions of the unilateral Soviet moratorium on the launching of anti-satellite systems, the U.S. Congress, over the past two years, has been refusing to appropriate funds for the holding of the tests of anti-satellite arms. It is precisely this stand of the U.S. Congress and not the alleged Soviet military menace that now causes the Pentagon's concern.

The case of anti-satellite arms offers a patent example of the speculation of the White House and the Pentagon on the allegations about "the Soviet military advantage", they fabricated themselves, in order to build up the U.S. military arsenals and to justify the demands for the spending on war preparation of ever more funds of the American taxpayers.

NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS 19 APR FOR 'CIVILIAN PURPOSES'

LD201412 Moscow TASS in English 1306 GMT 20 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 20 TASS -- The two small-yield nuclear explosions detonated in the Soviet Union yesterday were exclusively for civilian purposes, Academician Vitaliy Goldanskiy told a TASS correspondent today.

"They have nothing in common with the nuclear tests conducted by Soviet specialists at the test site near Semipalatinsk and by Americans in Nevada.

The blasts near Perm were carried out not at a military test site, although they were underground."

Explosive devices of all sorts were used for construction of roads, mines and water reservoirs, the academician said. "They made construction much easier and cheaper."

"There is nothing new, the less so essential, when nuclear explosive devices are used for civilian purposes," Goldansky said. "They are used, as a rule, when it is necessary to blow up especially heavy rock or a large mass of rock.

Civilian nuclear explosive devices normally feature small yields. The yield of yesterday's explosions in the Perm region was, as the announcement said, less than 20 kilotons.

They were conducted underground which is the only similarity with explosions at military test sites."

Engineer on Explosions

PM201915 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 21 Apr 87 First Edition p 2

[I. Sadriyev report under the rubric "Answer Requested": "Command to the Atom"; first paragraph is SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA introduction -- quotation marks as published]

[Text] On 19 April TASS reported two underground nuclear explosions carried out in Perm Oblast. The editorial office asked N.I. Kobyakov, chief engineer of the "Permneft" Production Association, to relate the details.

"The underground nuclear explosions detonated in the north of our oblast are yet another example of the utilization of the energy of the atom for peaceful purposes. For the first time in the world such explosions have been carried out for the needs of the petroleum industry.

Previously, the extractors of the 'black gold' were aided by the energy of explosive substances. The 'slow explosion' method was employed -- the thermo-gas-chemical effect of burning powder on the oil-bearing strata. In the 11th 5-Year Plan the association obtained an additional 60,000 tonnes of oil using this method. And now the time of atomic energy is here.

The petroleum formation in one of the northern deposits at which the reaction was produced by these two explosions has a particular characteristic -- it is separated into local seams from which it is extremely difficult to extract the liquid fuel. Normally, only 20 percent of the oil can be removed from such formations. An explosion, by creating a system of fissures, unites the 'miniformations.' Subsequently the oil is forced out by pumping gas into the mixture [splay] under pressure.

Research is now in progress and the preliminary data are being collected -- which will enable us to acquire a clear idea of the efficiency of the new method. At the same time the designing of a special compressor station which will pump gas into the deposit is under way. The explosions carried out did not harm the ecology of the territory.

SOLTON EXAMINES NEED FOR MUTUAL VERIFICATION

LD201653 Moscow World Service in English 1310 GMT 20 Apr 87

[Commentary by station correspondent Yuriy Solton]

[Text] It would seem that the Soviet Union's consent to dismantle its tactical missiles in Europe within 12 months if the Soviet and American medium-range missiles are scrapped has removed the fears in the West and cleared the way for a real disarmament. But the NATO military quarters are in two minds again: They keep claiming verification may prove a problem, and often distort the Soviet position into the bargain. Radio Moscow's Yuriy Solton comments:

Equality and equal security is the key principle underlying the Soviet disarmament proposals. It's well-known here in Moscow that plans for delivering a nuclear attack on the Soviet Union have not been given up. Also suspicious is the fact that both the United States and its nuclear allies in NATO keep flatly refusing to follow the example of the Soviet Union and China and pledge not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. So you see, the Soviet Union takes a greater interest in a reliable verification than the NATO countries.

What are you afraid of? Mikhail Gorbachev kept asking the United States Secretary of State George Shultz this question at the recent meeting in Moscow. We would like to sign a reliable agreement for a most stringent and comprehensive verification. And since a whole class of nuclear arms is to be scrapped the questions of respecting a future agreement are taking on a qualitatively new significance. Verification is a major lever to ensure security, so the Soviet Union will demand verification and on-the-spot inspection everywhere missiles will be dismantled and destroyed, at proving grounds and bases, including those in third countries, and also where missiles are stockpiled and manufactured by any companies, both private and government owned. And mutual verification is a must. The Soviet Union has lately suggested establishing adequate control over a stop to nuclear tests, a ban on chemical weapons, a reduction in conventional weapons and nondeployment of weapons in space.

None of these Soviet proposals have drawn a positive reply from the West. The question is what accounts for the present NATO's concern in connection with verification? Do they really want to help get reliable verification for a nuclear disarmament agreement; or do they hope, which seems more likely, to block approaches to such an agreement with the talk about difficulties of verification?

PRIMAKOV INTERVIEWED ON GORBACHEV PROPOSALS

AU152041 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 14 Apr 87 p 6

[Interview with Academician Yevgeniy Primakov, director of the World Economics and International Relations Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences, by Rudolf Nittmann in Bratislava on 11 April: "Profound Interest in Building Our Pan-European House; Academician Yevgeniy Primakov on Mikhail Gorbachev's Prague Initiatives for Nuclear Disarmament"]

[Text] [Nittmann] In his Prague speech Comrade Gorbachev placed special emphasis on the fact that the solution of a whole set of problems concerning nuclear disarmament constitutes the foundation of a joint European house. Reykjavik and the Soviet proposal for the elimination of Soviet and U.S. intermediate-range missiles from Europe already showed that chances for this exist. What sort of further course of action does the Soviet Union propose now?

[Primakov] Comrade Gorbachev underscored in Prague a number of issues that are closely connected with the disentanglement of many problems entangled by the United States. Comrade Gorbachev voiced the hope that they can be extricated. This optimism is founded on two factors. The first factor is the steadily growing realization that the continuation of previous trends in the international situation could result in a universal catastrophe. In this connection he stressed that realism is evidently on the rise in the West, albeit it has not yet reached great dimensions. This is a long road and it would be premature to claim that realism and a new approach to international issues have already prevailed there, that new political thinking has already gained ground. Nonetheless, certain sprouts of this are there. The second factor, which he mentioned in his speech, is Reykjavik. Reykjavik not only showed that it was the United States that blocked new opportunities for a breakthrough in the sphere of disarmament, it also marked -- in defiance of this fact -- a new stage, a new era because the positions on a number of issues were reasonably constructive and a new philosophy was set forth, a philosophy that could open the road to advancement.

The Soviet Union recently announced that it is ready to open up the package of its proposals and to take out of it the question of intermediate-range missiles. Why did the Soviet Union do this? We always speak about two types of linkage. One type is the strategic or objective linkage, the linkage, for example, between offensive weapons and the so-called SDI of the United States. This is an objective linkage because the creation of the SDI system would preclude any reduction in offensive missiles and their number would increase. The second type of linkage is a negotiating linkage [rokovacia zviazanost]. Because the Soviet Union made great concessions, we tied everything into a single package. We expected the other side to make great concessions as well. Regrettably, this has not happened. That is why this part, which was linked with negotiations, could be excluded from the package. Our motives for doing so were twofold. First, the United States had blocked any other progress and it was necessary to seek new ways of conducting a dialogue. Second, we ascribe great importance to delivering Europe from nuclear missiles, particularly those of intermediate range. A number of states came up with this request in negotiations and eminent personalities at the Moscow forum also turned to us in this matter. The USSR decided to unwrap the package. But as soon as we did this, the West suddenly started to slow down the implementation of agreements on intermediate-range missiles, although, in the event of an agreement, we would for all practical purposes accept the U.S. zero option.

[Nittmann] As is known, the United States is now renouncing its zero option.

[Primakov] Well-known journalist Flora Lewis poked fun at this when she said that the Americans do not want to negotiate even with themselves. The main argument they used in this connection was that we supposedly have a certain superiority in operational and tactical missiles and that, supposedly, it is impossible to deal with the question of intermediate-range missiles without resolving that issue as well. When they speak about the linkage of these two issues, they betray their own speculation as they are knocking on an open door. The USSR has said many times that it is ready to link these two questions: When we proposed the destruction of all intermediate-range missiles in Europe, we immediately said that at one and the same time we will also remove increased-range operational and tactical missiles from the territories of Czechoslovakia and the GDR and we were ready to start immediate negotiations on this issue, but this time we have gone even further. Comrade Gorbachev declared in Prague that we are ready to conduct these negotiations /in parallel/ [slantlines denote widening as published], concurrently, regardless of what will happen with intermediate-range missiles. We proposed that these talks start without delay, with the aim of not only reducing the number of these missiles, but of liquidating them altogether. This means that we are proposing a zero solution also for operational and tactical missiles. At the same time, the increased range missiles are not being linked with these talks. We will remove them at the same time, once we sign an agreement of intermediate-range missiles.

Comrade Gorbachev declared, furthermore, that we are ready to accept any forms of verification. However, our verification philosophy is such that we are prepared to accept any forms of verification in the event of the signing of an agreement. That means that we are opposed to verification for the sake of verification, to espionage under the guise of verification. If nothing is signed, what, in fact, is there to verify?

I would like to stress yet one more thing from Comrade Gorbachev's speech. He stressed that we are ready to reduce offensive strategic missiles by 50 percent within 5 years or, if they want, to abolish all nuclear missiles within 10 years. We have facilitated the attainment of this goal, but only under the condition that the sides will definitely not infringe upon the ABM Treaty. These are new accents in our proposals. The first reactions from the West have been positive, not to mention the chemical weapons. [sentence as published] Comrade Gorbachev said that we have halted the production of chemical weapons and that we have started to build a plant for the destruction of the stocks of these weapons. Furthermore, he said that we are ready to conduct wide-ranging talks on the limitation of conventional arms and that we are ready to hold a consultative meeting at the level of ministers of foreign affairs in Vienna in order to open the road to such wide-ranging talks. Reagan has now even been compelled to say that he acknowledges the Soviet step as a step forward on the road to the implementation of a possible agreement on intermediate-range missiles.

[Nittmann] This is what he said officially. But what excuses will his Secretary of State Shultz bring with him to Moscow?

[Primakov] Well, we shall see. Some circumstances again give cause for concern. They have started to talk about espionage matters again, and that is not a prelude to talks. The United States always undertakes such campaigns when important talks are on the agenda. Before Geneva, it was the Weinberger letter, and before Reykjavik, the Daniloff case. They always do such things when important matters are at stake.

[Nittmann] In his speech in Prague Comrade Gorbachev said that now there is a unique chance to start the process of nuclear disarmament, which must not be wasted. Wherein lies this chance, in your opinion?

[Primakov] Indeed, it is necessary to seize the opportunity being created by our formidable concessions. If an agreement were reached on intermediate-range missiles, this would be the first time in history that existing missiles are actually physically destroyed. It would be the beginning of a whole process of nuclear disarmament. Until now, various ceilings have always been defined, and these ceiling had to be reached, with the result that more such weapons have thus actually been produced. There is yet another aspect: The West assumes that we have a larger number of operational and tactical missiles and that, consequently, they must reach what they say is our level. Comrade Gorbachev spoke about a different approach: He who has a preponderance must cut his numbers, instead of the other side increasing theirs.

[Nittmann] Comrade Gorbachev also emphasized in his speech new approaches to building our joint European home. This, too, is an idea that is winning the sympathy of all Europeans.

[Primakov] You are right. As early as at the 27th CPSU Congress Comrade Gorbachev spoke about the growing mutual dependence of the whole world. This also applies to Europe. Of course, no one denies, nor can he deny, that Europe is divided, that it houses capitalist and socialist states. However, the dialectics are such that, despite this division, it remains an organic whole. It has its own history, its own culture, its own civilization, of which we are all a part. In the opinion of Comrade Gorbachev, Europe could contribute in a very positive way to stabilizing the situation on a global scale.

[Nittmann] Individual states as well as their governments can do a great deal for this. Comrade Gorbachev specifically mentioned Paris, London, and Bonn's share in clearing Europe of intermediate-range missiles, but actions by the European public can also do a great deal in this respect. What do you think of such campaigns and what can be done by the public of our countries?

[Primakov] Well, what matters is a truly active contribution. Our people and the working people of other socialist countries can do a great deal to enhance the attractiveness of socialism. The fact that we are now carrying out restructuring and democratization in all respects not only strengthens us, but strengthens socialism as a whole. The model of socialism that we are creating demonstrates to everyone that it is an attractive model, a model that has unequalled advantages over capitalism. In this way we are strengthening socialism on a global scale.

[Nittmann] Socialism thus also effectively helps to build our joint European home. How would you assess the efforts of the West European public in this joint construction?

[Primakov] The international forum for survival in Moscow showed a great deal in this respect. I participated in organizing the "roundtable" for political scientists, which was attended by people of diverse political opinions and convictions. But even though these people voiced diverse views in a free discussion, they all agreed that a way must be found to lead mankind out of the zone of the nuclear threat. This is a good model of what the public can do. It is necessary to abandon the old notion that the only movement that supports us is a peace movement. It is necessary to conduct a dialogue with everyone and to use the potentials of all these people. I believe that we must reinforce our contacts with pacifist organizations, all the more so as this is the time when public opinion is turning its face toward us. And we must seize this opportunity.

WARSAW PACT FORCES MILITARY COUNCIL SESSION HELD

PM181541 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Apr 87 First Edition p 1

["On the Results of a Regular Session of the Warsaw Pact Member States Joint Armed Forces Military Council" -- KRSNAYA ZVEZDA headline]

[Text] A regular session of the Warsaw Pact Member States Joint Armed Forces Military Council was held in Minsk 16-18 April under the chairmanship of Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov, commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces.

Some current questions concerning the activity of the Joint Armed Forces were examined in the course of the session, and recommendations were adopted.

The session was held in a businesslike atmosphere and in a spirit of friendship and mutual understanding.

GORBACHEV EXPECTED AT MAY PACT MEETING IN GDR

LD151522 Hamburg DPA in German 1523 GMT 15 Apr 87

[Text] East Berlin (DPA) -- An East Bloc summit meeting will take place in East Berlin next month. A GDR Foreign Ministry spokesman confirmed today that the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact states will meet routinely in the GDR at the end of May. It is made up of the East Bloc states' party leaders.

Thus Soviet party leader Mikhail Gorbachev is also expected in the GDR. He was last in East Berlin April 1986 at the SED party congress.

ANTONOV CHAIRS CEMA MACHINE BUILDING MEETING

PM301153 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] Havana, 27 Mar -- The fulfillment of the Comprehensive Program for CEMA Countries' Scientific and Technical Progress Through the Year 2000 was one of the main questions at the Sixth Session of the CEMA Committee for Cooperation in Machine Building held here 24-26 March. All CEMA countries and Yugoslavia participated in it. The session was chaired by A.K. Antonov, head of the Soviet delegation and deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

The participants discussed measures to ensure rapid implementation of the comprehensive program and to develop production sharing and specialization in machine building.

Agreements were signed on multifaceted international cooperation in the production of the IL-114 passenger aircraft for local airlines and the building of ships, certain kinds of metal-cutting machine tools, and various instruments at Vietnamese enterprises.

GERASIMOV FOREIGN MINISTRY NEWS CONFERENCE 21 APR

U.S. Health Cooperation

LD212222 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2200 GMT 21 Apr 87

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] A briefing on current questions of international politics has taken place in Moscow. Comrade Gerasimov, head of the information directorate of the USSR Foreign Affairs Ministry, said in particular:

[Begin Gerasimov recording] From 13-17 April a meeting of the joint Soviet-U.S. commission on cooperation in public health care took place in Washington. This commission met after a 9-year break. This long, protracted break happened not at all through our fault.

Reactivation of cooperation in medicine started after the summit meeting in Reykjavik. Now a program for cooperation in oncology has been signed. Programs on cardiovascular diseases, influenza, viruses, hepatitis, eye diseases, and scientific research into the development of an artificial heart have been prepared.

Moreover, new areas [napravleniya] of cooperation in a number of other spheres [oblasti] have been examined and approved. This is in particular in medicobiological aspects of alcoholism and drug addiction. In these areas working plans of cooperation are to be prepared for the next session. [end recording]

Replies were given to journalists' questions.

DRA Rebel Resistance

LD211424 Moscow TASS in English 1410 GMT 21 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 21 TASS -- The extremist armed groupings in Afghanistan backed from the outside are toughening resistance to the national reconciliation policy, a spokesman for the USSR Foreign Ministry told a briefing for pressmen here today. The counter-revolutionary chiefs, he said, have increased their "bonuses" for the killing of party activists, members of the national reconciliation commission and patriotically minded people.

Contrary to the provocative intrigues of the counter-revolutionaries and their patrons, more than thirteen hundred national reconciliation commissions, with a total membership of more than 17,000 activists are functioning all over the country. More than 40,000 refugees have returned home. A total of 21,000 members of armed groups have gone over to the side of the people's power. In contact with the local authorities are more than eleven hundred groups numbering nearly 100,000 rebels. A total of 949 villages have been peacefully liberated.

Support among the Afghan clergy in favour of national reconciliation continues growing. Seven hundred and fifty clergymen have been elected to the local bodies of power, more than 20 mullahs are members of the central council of the DRA National Front, and 12 clergymen are members of the DRA Revolutionary Council.

The international prestige of Afghanistan is growing. The DRA has recently established diplomatic relations with Cyprus and Zimbabwe. At present the DRA maintains diplomatic relations with 82 countries, the spokesman for the USSR Foreign Ministry said in conclusion.

Palestinian Unification

LD211305 Moscow TASS in English 1250 GMT 21 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 21 TASS -- "The unification process which is taking place in Palestinian ranks is being regarded approvingly in the Soviet Union", Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Information Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said at a briefing here today.

"We have always held and continue to hold", he said in comment on the beginning of the session of the Palestine National Council in Algiers, "that the Palestinian resistance movement can successfully struggle for the legitimate national rights of its people only if concerted and closely coordinated actions are taken".

The spokesman for the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs positively evaluated the results of the Harare meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement's Committee on Palestine.

"The results of the meeting," he emphasized, "are consonant with our line towards resolving conflict situations, and with efforts aimed at setting up a preparatory committee for the convocation of an international conference on the Middle East".

'TOP PRIORITY' 17 APR REVIEWS SHULTZ VISIT

LD181331 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 17 Apr 87

["Top Priority" program presented by Pavel Kuznetsov, with Radomir Bogdanov and Sergey Plekhanov]

[Excerpts] [Kuznetsov] The new Soviet proposals, ranging from shorter range missiles to space weapons and nuclear testing, continue to occupy center stage, put forward by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, who was here on a 3-day visit, are being now assessed and discussed in the NATO alliance. Let's start the ball rolling with one of you summing up the essence of the Soviet offer on shorter range missiles.

[Bogdanov] Well, I tend to agree with you, Pavel, that Shultz visit to Moscow, or rather the results of his visit, are the major international event now and it is really, it has really a world importance. And if you sum it up in one or two words, what is the main (?result) [words indistinct] American view, but you have another player in the equation -- Western Europe. But in any case I believe that the Soviet side this time has done its level best to open the way for the comprehensive, real agreements starting a real nuclear disarmament, maybe for the first time in the history. What do I mean by that? I mean that you have just a menu of very tasty dishes, like INF, it is settled to the satisfaction of the Western (?desires).

[Kuznetsov] How, how?

[Plekhanov] Because the new offer is a step beyond what was offered in Prague by Mikhail Gorbachev.

[Bogdanov] No, no, no. I start with INF, I start with INF. You have it done, I mean 100 warheads in the Soviet Union, 100 warheads in United States and zero for Europe. What Western European leaders were crying for for the last year, they have it now. Number two, shorter range missiles -- by the way, Pavel, we didn't bring that problem to the equation. The Western Europeans brought that to the equation. With shorter-range missiles, okay, we started in Prague suggesting that we are ready to start negotiations on the (?parallel), but in Moscow we went many, many steps further. We said okay, we are ready to destroy them within 1 year, within 1 year.

[Kuznetsov] As a package with medium-range missiles.

[Bogdanov] Yes, as a package, as a package with the medium-range missiles and that was the package not created by us, that was the package created by the Western Europeans and by the Americans, if you like. Now we destroy them and that problem is no more existing. And of course you have such an amount of goodwill in our side that we are really in the full right to ask the other side: What are your real intentions? Are you really for nuclear disarmament, or are you for building up endlessly and making just, you know, kind of noises about all that, you know?

[Kuznetsov] Yeah, this question is now being asked. Thank you. Mr Shultz was made familiar with the Soviet definition of what the laboratory research on SDI is all about. What do we understand by it and how does it square with the ABM Treaty?

[Plekhanov] Well, basically it means that you can do research in some of the new technologies and you can even test them in a testing field. The thing that you can do is to (?use) laboratories, plants and so on. The thing that you should not do in our view is take them to space. And Comrade Gorbachev suggested that the experts of both sides get together and study in minute detail the problem of which particular systems must not be taken into space because that would destroy the ABM Treaty.

Now, the problem is that the Shultz delegation came to Moscow with a position on SDI which is a step backward from the position that President Reagan had in Reykjavik and according to press reports from the United States this is a the result of pressure applied by the Department of Defense and according to the new American position they are prepared to abide for the ABM Treaty, by the ABM Treaty, which, by the way, doesn't have any time limitation -- when the two sides signed the ABM Treaty that was forever.

[Kuznetsov] Of indefinite duration.

[Plekhanov] Of indefinite duration, that neither side should try to build an ABM system which would cover the territory, which would be space-based, air-based and so on. Yes, so now the United States says -- in Reykjavik they said well let's abide by it for 10 years -- now they say no, just 7 years. After 7 years let's be free to develop the system which the ABM Treaty forbids.

[Kuznetsov] [words indistinct] that seems to coincide with their plans for early deployment of SDI. If we add 7 years to 1987 that would bring us to 1994.

[Plekhanov] That's right, and according to the latest estimates from the Pentagon, 1994 is the year when they could deploy something in space, some kind of early deployment. As to whether the stuff that they're prepared to deploy would protect anyone or any territory, I don't know, it's a big question, because there is a lot of obfuscation around.

But the clear intention of the U.S. Administration is to destroy the ABM treaty, as quick as they can, because it interferes with their plans for creating an ABM system.

[Bogdanov] And it means that they're ready, still ready, to sacrifice the whole arms control process for SDI. That's (?simply) in one word what they are up to.

[Plekhanov] And that's very disappointing, by the way, that's a very disappointing impression that many people got from the Shultz visit to Moscow, that the position of the U.S. Government does continue to deteriorate in some important respects. The movement backward from Reykjavik continues.

[Kuznetsov] Professor Bogdanov, I quite agree with you when you said that we did our level best; I think we did a little bit more than level best on the INF issue to move it out of the current impasse. At the same time, fears in the West persist that without nuclear weapons -- although France and Great Britain do preserve them -- so, without nuclear arms Western Europe will be even more vulnerable to a conventional Soviet attack. Don't they understand that there can be no nuclear or conventional war in Europe without the complete destruction of both sides? Why do they keep talking and harping about a so-called Soviet threat when this country, which is said to be superior, to have more of everything in every (?class and) category of weapons, voluntarily wants to eliminate its own advantages? [passage omitted]

[Plekhanov] I would like to add something to here. A delegation of U.S. congressmen visited Moscow a few days ago and at one of the meetings a member of the Soviet parliament, Marshal Akhromeyev, who happens to be the head of the General Staff of the Soviet Union, made a very, very persuasive plea for not only eliminating nuclear weapons from Europe but drastically reducing the level of conventional forces because, he emphasized -- and here is a professional, a top professional military man from the Soviet Union emphasizing -- that you can't fight any kind of war in Europe because Europe is full of nuclear reactors, because Europe is full of storage tanks filled with all kinds of chemicals and oil and so and so forth.

[Kuznetsov] That's very important.

[Plekhanov] If you simply replay World War I type battle, conventional weapons, Verdun-II for instance, or a Battle of the Bulge from the Second World War, Europe will be gone and the damage will spread to other continents as well. That's a very, very important thing. We do recognize that, and as a result we will continue pressing for very deep cuts in conventional weapons, for changing the doctrines of both sides in such a manner, and the equipment of both side, in such a manner that neither side, neither the West nor the East, will be able to launch an offensive. But we must bring the levels down in Europe to the levels and to the structures where both sides will be capable only of defensive action. And that is our goal and we'll continue to press for it.

[Kuznetsov] Secretary of State George Shultz has flown to California, where he briefed President Reagan at his Santa Barbara ranch on the results of the talks in Moscow, and after the briefing President Reagan said that he would consult with allied leaders in Venice in June at an economic summit. As far as the latest reports go, West Germany and Great Britain are said to be against going too far along the road of nuclear disarmament. But in our view a long delay could be dangerous to prospects for an INF agreement. I understand this one is a difficult question, but does the United States want this agreement badly enough to be able, to be willing to override disagreement within the NATO?

[Bogdanov] You know, I would like to come back to my, you know, pessimism about this administration. I am sorry to say, but you know, the secretary of state came to Moscow literally empty-handed. Number one.

Number two, he brought with him quite a big group of people -- 75 people, as if he were trying to hide behind them if he takes some decision.

Number three, at the last moment when he got all these proposals from the Soviet side he had no instructions, he was not empowered by his own President to say yes or no and he was hiding behind the allies' backs. What does that mean?

[Kuznetsov] But as I said, they keep saying that what we proposed is something they have wanted for a long time.

[Bogdanov] Yes, but what does it mean? It means that still within this administration there is no consensus, consensus on what they should do or not do with the Soviet side. They are going to delay till June, but I am sorry to say, I don't wish any harm to anybody, but who knows what will happen within this time with the domestic, you know, developments in United States? Now you put the question are they willing or not. That is a question to them, not to us. They have to answer that question to themselves. What I mean to say, it seems to me they have to strike a deal among themselves, because it's the usual situation -- they come to Moscow, they get something, but they they come back and they discuss it and of course it cannot be indefinite, you know, indefinite proposal, because -- let me come back again to my point, which to my mind is very important one -- let's talk, let's talk business.

[Kuznetsov] What you seem to suggest is that despite the fact that the talks in Geneva resume on 23 April they will still be marking time until somebody makes up his mind in June in Venice. Is that your point?

[Bogdanov] That's my point.

[Kuznetsov] Okay. Our countries can and should cooperate despite the numerous disagreements, differences on certain vital, I would say, problems. This is borne out by a series of meetings between Soviet leaders and top officials with the high-level congressional delegatin you mentioned, Sergey, led by House Speaker Jim Wright. And they discussed a number of joint ventures, spoke in favor of developing broader ties between the United States Congress and the Supreme Soviet. So I think there are prospects for better relations, at least more businesslike relations, between the Soviet Union and the United States.

[Plekhanov] This delegation from the House of Representatives is the most important, the most prestigious and high-level delegation ever to visit the Soviet Union. I took part in some of the meetings and I was impressed by the constructiveness of the dialogue. There is evidently a wide body of public opinion in the United States both at the public opinion level and at the level of U.S. Congress in favor of serious steps toward improvement of Soviet-American relations. I think one area of consensus which emerges, I think, between the two countries as far as those delegations' meeting is concerned, is that we spend far too much on military hardware, far too much on weapons. There are crying needs both in our own countries and elsewhere, in the third world...

[Kuznetsov, interrupting] So let's cut our budgets.

[Plekhanov, interrupting] Which must be met. Yes, let's cut our budgets and use the funds -- I would prefer a 50 percent cut, and I think if the two sides reach a consensus on that that we can really eliminate a lot of the unnecessary stuff that we have. I think we could go really very far. So to me that visit, the results of the visit, are very encouraging because the House of Representatives -- we can argue as to how representative it is, whether it's more representative or less representative of the people than the Supreme Soviet of the United States [as heard], that's beside the point. It is a representative body in American politics and I think the winds in American politics are starting to blow in the direction of something like, well, some kind of rapprochement with the Soviet Union. [Passage omitted]

BOVIN ANSWERS READERS QUESTIONS ON WORLD ISSUES

PM161507 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 5

[Feature comprising readers' letters and replies by Aleksandr Bovin: "Readers Ask. IZVESTIYA's Political Observer Replies"]

[Excerpts] "I believe that U.S. military bases pose a great threat to the socialist camp. Why can't the Soviet Government have its own bases on the territory of other states to protect them and our interests against the U.S. military threat?" (F.I. Avtukhov, Apostolovo, Dnepropetrovsk Oblast)

The installation and use of military bases on the territory of other states is a rather costly and highly unpopular occupation in our time. Therefore: Should our military policy be perceived as a mirror image of U.S. military policy?

Here is the main criteria of the effectiveness of any major military measure: Does it strengthen international stability or not. I am afraid that the creation of new military bases does not pass the test of this criterion.

"Much is being written at present about 'Irangate.' It is well known that the leaders of the Islamic Republic of Iran have spoken on many occasions about the aggressive U.S. policy toward Iran. How are Khomeyni and his entourage reacting now to the secret arms shipments from the United States? What is the Iranian press writing on the matter." (A.I. Krylova, Sverdlovsk)

The Iranian press is cursing the American "devils from the West." At the same time, there are obviously quite a few people among the Iranian leaders who would like to purchase weapons in the United States. After all, McFarlane's appearance in Tehran was no accident. But the struggle within the Iranian ruling clique, within Khomeyni's entourage, thwarted a possible agreement.

Reports have come in from Tehran that the Iranians are planning to publish their own version of events in reply to the Tower Commission report.

"Switzerland is considered a neutral country. But what sort of neutrality is this, when it accepts deposits in secret accounts from all sorts of dictators and other such traitors of their peoples? Moreover, it is in effect financing them; in other words putting its nose into other people's affairs." (P.A. Gerasimov, Alshakhovo, Tatar ASSR)

Under international law, neutrality means nonparticipation in war and refusal to participate in military blocs or groupings in peacetime, and that is all. Currency and financial affairs and moral considerations fall in a different plane of analysis.

"IZVESTIYA reported that President Reagan sent a New Year's address to the Soviet people. How do you explain the fact that this address was not published?" (G.N. Rybin, Yershovo Village, Arkhangelsk Oblast)

The exchange of New Year messages between political leaders of various states has a different nature from New Year greetings between private individuals. It seemed on the eve of 1986 that Soviet-U.S. relations had taken a turn for the better and, by mutual agreement, we were addressed on television by R. Reagan, and the Americans by M.S. Gorbachev. The situation was different on the eve of 1987. The U.S. Administration was behaving in an extremely unfriendly manner. Moscow turned down the exchange of New Year greetings.

Therefore, R. Reagan's address was not published in our newspapers. Nonetheless, it was broadcast on the First Program of All-Union Radio on the morning of 1 January.

"I read in the 'Roundtable' feature a commentary on the NATO countries' response to the Warsaw Pact states' appeal. When will the newspaper at last understand that the party decision on publicity imposes the obligation to tell the people the whole truth? I would like to read the actual NATO proposals for myself, without any 'commentaries.'" (A.V. Denisov, Kharkov)

A daily newspaper's task is not just to report facts but also to comment on them. This is done everywhere. For example, I have no recollection at all of any Western newspapers ever publishing any Warsaw Pact documents in full, let alone "without commentaries." This is not a recommended example, of course. Just food for thought.... [passage omitted]

"A couple of days ago I listened to a program about subversive ideological centers. Without the slightest hesitation, some observer glibly told us what we should be thinking about them. I understood that they have had it. Their money has gone down the drain. Familiar with the enemy's treacherous traps, now everyone can tune in his radio and see for himself how true all this is. Alas.... The observer forgot to tell us why such a well educated people has to waste billions of rubles to silence downright lies. The question is: What are the facts which they manipulate if we, so to speak, have nothing to hide? The answer is simple. Their weapons are our own "delayed action mines" which they would like to explode from a distance. I don't think at all that it would be stupid to be a little less nervous and to extract healthy grains even from such criticism." (L.T. Leshchinskiy, Odessa)

I agree with you. I hope that the time of "silencers" is coming to an end.

I am convinced that, in most cases, we are capable of producing sound arguments in favor of our stance. If we experience a shortage of arguments and feel our own weakness in some sphere, it means that something is not being done correctly. It is necessary to take a good look, ponder, and introduce corrections to policy.

"Why is our country resuming nuclear tests? After all, our leadership has repeatedly declared that they are unnecessary for checking existing warheads, and we do not intend to create [sozdavat] any third generation nuclear weapons (of the SDI type)." (A.V. Novikov, Andropov)

Nuclear tests are needed in principle for various scientific research and military-experimental purposes (checking that the specifications of nuclear munitions match their tactical-technical tasks; confirming the estimated specifications of new types of nuclear charges; investigating the efficiency and effect of nuclear explosions on certain types of installations, equipment, and military technology).

The specific content of the test program is determined by the demands of the situation. Commenting on the first underground nuclear explosions following a prolonged break, a USSR Defense Ministry spokesman emphasized: As far as its nuclear test program is concerned, the Soviet Union will proceed exclusively on the basis of the minimum necessary for fundamental research national economic purposes, and checking the durability of equipment and weapons against the strike factors of nuclear explosions, including their durability against the means being developed under the U.S. SDI program plan.

"I believe that the USSR ought to bring its military doctrine into line with the new political thinking. There are so many weapons that the USSR can deter the United States with a considerably lower quantity of strategic weapons. Parity is not mandatory. A smaller proportion of weapons would demonstrate the absence of aggressive intentions in the Soviet Union. The arms race has its leader -- the United States. The USSR ought to take the position of leader in the disarmament race." (D.A. Dzyubanyuk, Kiev)

Theoretically, in a strictly abstract fashion, you are right. If we can guarantee a potential adversary's destruction "only" once, we would seem not to need any "multiple" capacity. But human logic does not exist outside psychological influences. A mathematically calculated, computerized universal catastrophe comes up against emotional objections and the insurmountable hope for survival.... These hopes urge "catching up" with the adversary and boosting the "destruction coefficient." [passage omitted]

"What are the 'three major obstacles' hindering the normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations?" (A.G. Shashkin, Voronezh)

The Chinese leaders impart the following meaning to the term "three major obstacles." The presence of Soviet forces in Afghanistan. The Soviet Union's assistance to and support for Vietnam, whose forces are in Cambodia. The "excessive," in the Chinese opinion, number of Soviet forces along the Chinese border, including the Soviet forces in Mongolia. All this, Beijing says, threatens the PRC's security. The elimination of the "three major obstacles" is, from the PRC point of view, a mandatory precondition for the normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations, especially in the political sphere.

The Soviet Union's stance is based on the following elements. First, we are prepared to discuss with the PRC and solve any problems, but within the sphere of our bilateral relations. For example, a considerable number of Soviet forces are stationed along the Soviet-Chinese border, which is a leftover from conflict situations during the "cultural revolution" times. On the other hand, and on the other side of the border, there are considerable numbers of Chinese forces. The situation has changed now, and the prevailing state of affairs can be examined and changed on the basis of reciprocity.

As regards the other "obstacles," it is easy to see that they go beyond the framework of Soviet-Chinese relations and affect the interests of third states. Consequently, these questions cannot be resolved in the course of Soviet-Chinese consultations.

PRAVDA VIEWS U.S. REACTIONS TO SHULTZ MOSCOW TALKS

PM211403 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Apr 87 Second Edition p 5

[Correspondent V. Gan report: "Boldness and Innovation"]

[Text] Washington, 17 Apr -- These days Moscow has been the chief source of international news, and it is the Soviet side that has been "making" this news, notes the ABC-TV Company. The U.S. journalists who covered U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz' talks and meetings with the USSR's leaders made similar assessments of what happened, which most frequently employed the epithets "important," "good," "great," "interesting," and "earnest."

It is the general opinion that the Soviet Union convincingly demonstrated that, given the political will, problems of arms control and disarmament are perfectly soluble. "As in many other spheres, Mikhail Gorbachev proposes new ways of thinking," ABC stated.

The fact Shultz failed to mention in his public statements the Soviet initiative on operational and tactical missiles gave U.S. commentators grounds for concluding that Washington was not ready for such a turn of events.

The administration's reaction is of a dual, contradictory nature. On the one hand, Washington seems to want agreements with the USSR. Right now, when the President's prestige is at an extraordinarily low ebb following the scandal of the affairs over Iran (according to the last poll conducted by the ABC-TV Company and THE WASHINGTON POST, two-thirds of Americans believe Reagan is not telling the truth about "Irangate"), a Soviet-U.S. accord would help to restore the country's trust in the White House. In the opinion of CBS, Reagan "could once again look like a world leader and not just like a president seeing out his term in office."

At the same time, the positions of right-wing radicals, who do not want to even hear of any agreements with the USSR and who dream of just one thing -- of exhausting it economically with more and more new rounds of the arms race -- are extremely strong in the administration. It is not hard to assume that it is due to their efforts that the mass media emphasize in every possible way that, in the event of the adoption of Soviet proposal, the U.S. NATO allies "will be left naked" in the face of "the threat of war" from the East. Revived arguments about the USSR's "colossal advantages" in the sphere of conventional arms have now started appearing in the pages of the U.S. press. According to this "logic," ridding Europe of nuclear weapons will merely... increase the likelihood of war on the continent.

Be that as it may, everyone can see that the Soviet side at the Moscow talks, so THE WASHINGTON POST writes, "stunned commentators with its boldness, innovation, and fresh ideas."

CORRECTION TO SHULTZ ARRIVAL ON MOSCOW VISIT

The following correction pertains to the item under the subhead "Shultz Arrives," published in the 15 April Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page A 3:

Only paragraph, line one: ...arrived in Moscow today on a business [delovoy] visit at the invitation...(changing "official" to "business" and supplying vernacular)

STATE DEPARTMENT DENIES VISAS TO USSR JOURNALISTS

1D220945 Moscow TASS in English 0931 GMT 22 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 22 TASS -- The U.S. State Department has denied entry visas to two leading journalists from NOVOSTI PRESS AGENCY, political commentator Vladimir Simonov and Boris Korolev, editor-in-chief of the North American desk.

Simonov is a member of the board of the U.S.S.R-U.S. Friendship Society and was to have led a delegation from Soviet friendship societies invited by the American side. Korolev was going to visit the United States at the invitation of American colleagues with a group of Soviet journalists.

Asked by U.S. congressmen, the State Department said that Simonov had been denied a visa on the basis of Act 212a629 providing for such sanctions against foreigners who, it says, may engage in activities that are subversive.

While urging "exchanges of people, ideas and information" from every tribune, American authorities continue and harden their prohibitive line taken on "undesirable aliens."

They recently locked their gate to a Soviet Trade union delegation.

Perceiving a threat on the American system in free writing by a journalist, they have now started discriminating against NOVOSTI PRESS AGENCY whose assistance has been constantly used, and appreciated by most of the representatives of the U.S. mass media visiting the USSR.

PRAVDA 'REJOINDER' NOTES REAGAN REMARKS ON ISRAEL

PM211342 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Apr 87 Second Edition p 5

[P. Demchenko "Rejoinder": "Forgetfulness or Design?"]

[Text] It was hard to believe U.S. President R. Reagan does not know the obvious facts of international politics. Nonetheless, his answer to a question during a meeting with the press in Los Angeles could be regarded as a lapse of memory, although it was most likely a deliberate distortion of the fact.

This was the question: Mr President, King Husayn of Jordan obtained a positive response in Europe to the proposal on convening an international conference on the Near East. The Soviet Union and the Palestinians will presumably take part in such a conference. Does the United States now support such a conference?

The question seemed entirely logical and relevant in the present situation, when voices can be heard everywhere in favor of convening the conference. But the answer...the answer made me take by pen.

"For our part, we are studying this idea," Reagan said. "We cannot ignore the fact that hitherto Israel, to some extent with reason, has objected to the idea of participation by the two parties you mentioned, because they both continue to deny Israel's right to exist as a state."

Now judge for yourselves -- how are we to understand that? It is well known that the Soviet Union, which proposed the convocation of such a conference many years ago, named among its participants, from the first, all the interested countries, including, of course, Israel, whose right to exist was recognized by Moscow from the moment that state was created and was never called into question. That is not the point. The Soviet Union has condemned and continues to condemn Israel's aggressive course and its territorial annexations and piratical raids against its neighbors. The conference is conceived precisely as an instrument for restoring peace in that long-suffering part of the globe and for working out security guarantees for the Arab countries and Israel.

What we have heard from Los Angeles can indicate only one thing: On any pretext, however absurd, the U.S. Administration is trying to justify its reluctance to take even the first step toward the normalization of the situation and international cooperation in the Near East to the detriment of the strong-arm policy that the United States now pursues there.

IZVESTIYA CITES CONGRESSMAN WRIGHT ON USSR TALKS

PM211117 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Visit Completed"]

[Text] The delegation from the U.S. House of Representatives headed by J. Wright, speaker of the House, left the Soviet Union 18 April. The delegation had been in our country on an official visit at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

At the airport in Moscow it was seen off by A.E. Voss, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet's Soviet of Nationalities, USSR Supreme Soviet Deputies G.A. Arbatov, V.V. Dementsev, and N.I. Maslennikov, and other officials.

J.F. Matlock, U.S. ambassador to the USSR, was among the send-off party.

Before the departure a news conference for the delegation took place at the USSR Foreign Ministry press center. J. Wright spoke of their great satisfaction with their meeting with Soviet leaders and the exchange of opinions at the USSR Supreme Soviet. He described the talks which had been held as "honest and frank [otkrovennyye]." The speaker pointed also the importance the talks held this week in Moscow with U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz. We believe, the head of the delegation said, the most suitable time has now come that for the first time in the past 15 years will give us a better chance of achieving a constructive accord on the problem of arms reduction.

Answering questions, J. Wright noted in particular that for all the difference of the political systems of the United States and the USSR it is not expedient to waste time of mutual accusations when it could be spent fruitfully on seeking mutually acceptable solutions.

J. Wright said Congress is seeking to observe the ABM Treaty and expressed the conviction that its initial interpretation is correct and that no other interpretations are needed. He also expressed himself in favor of observing the SALT II treaty.

TV LINKUP TO FEATURE USSR, U.S. LEGISLATORS

PM211553 Moscow TRUD in Russian 16 Apr 87 p 3

[Interview with USSR People's Artist K. Lavrov by correspondent S. Mostovshchikov under the rubric "Grounds for a Meeting": "Television Links: On a New Level"]

[Text] A meeting was held in Moscow recently between members of the U.S. House of Representatives and USSR Supreme Soviet deputies at which a definitive accord on organizing a new series of television linkups was reached. U.S. and Soviet parliamentarians will meet on the air for the first time. Here is what USSR People's Artist Hero of Socialist Labor K. Lavrov, deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet, actor at Leningrad's M. Gorkiy Great Academy Theater of Drama, and one of the organizers of the broadcasts being prepared, told TRUD correspondent S. Mostovshchikov.

"It is hard to say now who was the first to suggest the idea of holding a series of such television dialogues -- we or the Americans. Not that that is so important, of course. The main point is both sides really welcomed the idea. This means there is a great interest in holding such meetings on the air.

"In December 1986 a group of USSR Supreme Soviet deputies, including myself, went to the United States to hold preliminary discussions on the spot on questions of organizing a series of television linkups. It was then the need for a second meeting came to light, although on the whole all questions had been solved positively.

"The point is it is a simple matter for our country to implement such a television link -- all channels are state-owned. The U.S. congressmen needed time to find a television company which would buy the series of proposed linkups and take on their transmission. That took time. Representatives G. Brown and C. Schneider, who came to Moscow, have now reported that the major U.S. company ABC-TV will implement the links on their side. By all accounts, they expect to secure not just informative material but a real sensation. Incidentally, I can understand the American viewer perfectly. Given their level of information about life in the USSR, every broadcast from here has something exotic about it. Brown shared his impressions with us at the meeting in Moscow. The opinion is current in America that Russia is a hungry, unclothed, and unshod country. He now understands that is not true....

"It is planned to conduct the first television linkup entitled 'Let's Get Acquainted' 25 April. Three or four programs in this series, which, incidentally, has been called 'New Thinking in the Nuclear Age,' will be broadcast before the end of this year. In all, six television linkups are planned.

"It is probably not easy to say how all this will appear. The unpredictability of such broadcasts is their charm. Generally speaking, it will be an exchange of opinions between members of the U.S. Congress and deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet on the work of deputies, on the legislative process, and on the U.S. and Soviet political systems."

DOBRYNIN RECEIVES INDIAN FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY CHIEF

PM211058 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Apr 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Friendly Talk"]

[Text] On 20 April A.F. Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, received B.R. Bhagat, president of the Society of Friends of the Soviet Union, who has come to Moscow as head of the Society's delegation to take part in the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and India.

During the conversation, which took place in a warm, friendly atmosphere, B.R. Bhagat reported that the society he heads does much work among the Indian public to strengthen friendship and fruitful cooperation between the Soviet and Indian peoples. The activity of the Society of Friends of the Soviet Union received a powerful impetus as a result of the visit to India by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in November 1986 and the accords reached between him and Indian Prime Minister R. Gandhi on the further development of Soviet-Indian ties.

In the course of the conversation there was a discussion of questions of the participation of the Soviet and Indian public in the festival of India in the Soviet Union and the festival of the USSR in India, due to take place in 1987-1988, which will be major events in the life of the two countries' peoples.

The secretary of the CPSU Central Committee expressed profound satisfaction with the dynamic development of Soviet-Indian relations and the deepening of cooperation between public organizations in the Soviet Union and India. He spoke in detail of the restructuring now taking place in the USSR and the Soviet people's selfless labor to implement the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the party's strategic course of acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development and renewal of all aspects of Soviet society's life.

In the course of the conversation the mutual desire was expressed on the part of the Soviet and Indian public to strengthen friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and India in the interests of the peoples of the two countries and of peace in Asia and throughout the world.

Ambassador Hosts Reception

LD151221 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1950 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] On 14 April, Kaul, Indian ambassador to the USSR, hosted a reception on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and the USSR.

Comrade Solomentsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Party Control Committee; Comrade Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Comrade Vorontsov, first deputy minister of the USSR Foreign Ministry; heads of a number of other ministries and departments; and representatives of party, soviet, and public organizations attended the reception.

Delegations of the Society of Friends of the Soviet Union and the Indian-Soviet cultural relations society were also present.

DRA NATIONAL RECONCILIATION PROCESS CONTINUES

LD220928 Moscow TASS in English 0802 GMT 22 Apr 87

[Text] Kabul April 22 TASS -- TASS correspondent Oleg Kuzmin reports:

Another group of more than 200 Afghan refugees has returned to Nangarhar Province after several years in Pakistan.

They were given a hospitable welcome in Jalalabad, the province's administrative center, with the local commission on national reconciliation providing them with food, clothes and other essentials.

The executive committee of the council of people's representatives in Farah Province, according to reports from there, has met to sum up the work done under the reconciliation program.

It was noted at the meeting that over the past three months nearly 400 families of emigrants had returned to the province from abroad. Over the same time ceasefire protocols had been signed with 40 armed anti-government groups and similar talks were currently under way with another 12 such groups.

There are now 60 reconciliation commissions at district and village level in Farah Province.

Afghan people actively support the leadership's policy of putting an end to bloodletting. It has become known that peasants in Shakardara district in Kabul Province has helped security forces find and take away a major arms cache belonging to an extremist group and holding mostly American weapons.

DRA SOLIDARITY WEEK MARKING REVOLUTION BEGINS

LD212104 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0250 GMT 21 Apr 87

[By foreign policy commentator Vladimir Fadayev and Kabul correspondent Boris Savodyan]

[Text] [Fadayev] By decision of the World Peace Council, Afghanistan solidarity week starts today. This is timed to coincide with the 9th anniversary of the April Revolution, which falls on 28 April. It should be pointed out that the progressive world public has been following the events and processes taking place during all these years in that country, which is in the grip of the flames of an undeclared war. But you are aware, comrades, that in these difficult conditions the Government of Afghanistan found it possible to turn to the opposing side, calling for a cease-fire and to start a course of national reconciliation. The summons to restore peace, however, is meeting fierce opposition from outside. Thus, for instance, international imperialism has now stepped up its financing of the armed struggle against the republic by a factor of 1.5. Such is the real situation. There is no doubt that this solidarity week, in many countries throughout the world a lot of various events will be held in support of the struggling revolutionary people.

How has the news of this week then been received in Afghanistan itself? I put this question to Boris Savodyan, our correspondent in Kabul.

[Savodyan] The working people of this country see the idea of holding this week as warm support for their difficult struggle against international imperialism, first and foremost U.S. imperialism, which is rendering moral, material, and political support to the dushmans who are being sent from neighboring Pakistan. Today, when the Afghanistan solidarity week was announced, one must point out that despite the efforts of the Afghan Government aimed at stopping the bloodshed in the country and restoring peace, the undeclared war against this country is continuing. Every day, up to 40 times, the dushmans break the truce announced by Kabul. Here is one example of such perfidious violation. In obedience to the instruction of their bosses in Pakistan, bandist shelled the town of Gardez, the center of the Paktia Province on the Pakistani border, using surface-to-surface missiles. As a result, four people were killed and three injured, and housing in the town was damaged. Sabotage and terrorist actions like this have become an inseparable attribute of the dushmans' tactics; they are no rarity in Afghanistan. But on this occasion, it was a special case: the shelling of the town took place at a time when the government-announced truce has already been in force in the country for nearly 3 months, when the Afghan Armed Forces unilaterally ceased fire from all types of weapons.

[Fadaye] Boris Mikhailovich, the Afghan Government is known to be taking many effective measures at present not only to put a stop to the bloodshed on Afghan soil, but also to put civilian life on an even keel. Tell us briefly about these measures.

[Savodyan] A decree has been adopted on a new system and a certain reduction in the periods of military service and additional benefits for military personnel, including an increase in their salary and improved material and living conditions. Quite good results have been achieved in developing the national economy, too: Production of gross output is up one-third, and the national income is up 4 percent. Real assistance has been given to the peasants: The prices of mineral fertilizer supplied by the government have been reduced by 40 percent, and procurement prices for raw cotton and sugar beet have been raised on two occasions. If Afghan agriculture is currently experiencing difficulties and there is a shortfall in output, this is only because the actions of the extremists hinder the peasants cultivating the land, gathering the harvest, and selling it to the state.

[Fadaye] Boris Mikhailovich, how do the Afghans themselves evaluate the policy of national reconciliation chosen by the leadership?

[Savodyan] One cannot give an unambiguous assessment of it as yet. There has so far been no radical turn-about in the situation. Revolutionary Afghanistan is not alone in its struggle. It has been and still is receiving support from the Soviet Union. Last year, with the assistance of our country important national economic projects were put into operation such as Afghanistan's first installation for processing gas condensate into diesel fuel and benzine in Jowzjan Province, a gas filling station and airport in Kabul; the Salang tunnel was reconstructed and hundreds of apartments built in the Afghan capital. The other day, another project of importance for the Afghan economy was commissioned in Kabul, the casting shop at the Jangalak motor vehicle repair works. Now production of steel castings will begin in Afghanistan. In the current 5-year period, with the economic and technical assistance of the Soviet Union, 130 enterprises will be constructed in Afghanistan, in virtually all branches of the republic's national economy.

BANGLADESH COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRESS CONCLUDES

PM151559 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Apr 87 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Congress Over"]

[Text] Dacca, 12 Apr -- The Fourth Communist Party of Bangladesh [CPB] Congress has ended work here. The Bangladesh Communists' forum adopted a new edition of the party program, which laid down that the CPB's main aim at this stage is to struggle to implement a national democratic revolution with a socialist face. The party sees the creation of a broad national democratic front with the participation of representatives of workers, peasants, and progressive middle strata of the population, intelligentsia, and the petite bourgeoisie given an important initiative-taking role by the Communist Party as being the way to achieve this goal.

In the political resolution the congress delegates called for the unity of the international communist and workers movement to be strengthened and for all progressive forces to rally in the struggle for peace, democracy, and social progress.

Leading party organs -- the CPB Central Committee and Central Committee Secretariat -- were elected. Mohammad Farhad was reelected general secretary of the CPB Central Committee and Saifuddin Akhmed Manik was reelected deputy general secretary of the CPB Central Committee. A party control commission chaired by Abdus Salam was also created. Certain changes to the party statutes were adopted.

Delivering the closing speech, M. Farhad pointed out that the Bangladesh Communists' forum had been held in a businesslike atmosphere, an atmosphere of criticism and self-criticism, and a spirit of unity and cohesion. There was an extensive exchange of opinions on questions linked with fulfilling the tasks put forward in the new edition of the party program. In the current complex domestic political and socioeconomic situation the Communist Party must step up its struggle to defend Bangladesh working people's inalienable rights and to strengthen the unity of all Bangladesh's left-wing and democratic forces, M. Farhad noted. He thanked the representatives of the fraternal communist and workers parties for attending the congress.

The same day M. Farhad, general secretary of the CPB Central Committee, met with CPSU representatives N.Ya. Klepach, chief editor of the CPSU Central Committee journal POLITICHESKOYE SAMOOBRAZOVANIYE, and V.P. Baydakov, a senior official of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, who were attending the Fourth CPB Congress, and had a warm and friendly talk with them.

VIETNAM'S NGUYEN VAN LINH VISITS JOINT PROJECT

PM211346 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Apr 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "High Assessment"]

[Text] Ho Chi Minh City, 20 Apr -- Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the CPV [Communist Party of Vietnam] Central Committee, has expressed sincere gratitude to the CPSU and to the government and people of the Soviet Union for the tremendous, selfless assistance to Vietnam in the cause of national economic development. Today he visited one of the most important Soviet-Vietnamese cooperation projects -- the construction of the Tri An hydroengineering project near Ho Chi Minh City.

Addressing a Vietnamese-Soviet friendship rally, the general secretary of the CPV Central Committee assessed highly the labor of the international collective and the construction workers' contribution to strengthening friendship and cooperation between the two countries. He noted that the commissioning of the hydroelectric powerstation will make it possible significantly to improve electricity supplies to national economic projects in the south of the SRV and to provide water for 300,000 hectares of arid land.

A meeting took place between Nguyen Van Linh and the leadership of the construction staff of the Tri An power station and Soviet specialists. Specific questions connected with the construction of the hydroengineering project were discussed.

PRAVDA REPORTS CPSU DELEGATION VISIT TO VIETNAM

PM211159 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Apr 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Exchange of Experience"]

[Text] A delegation of CPSU party workers headed by I.P. Trofimov, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Transport and Communications Department, which had come to exchange experience of work, was in the SRV from 7 to 15 April in accordance with the plan for ties between the CPSU and the CPV. The delegation had talks in the CPV Central Committee Industry Department, the party committees of Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh, and Haiphong cities and Cuu Long and Hau Giang provinces, and at SRV ministries and departments. It also visited a number of transport and transport building enterprises.

The delegation was recieved by CPV Central Committee Secretary Vu Oanh.

PRK NATIONAL RECONCILIATION MOVE SEEN AS GOODWILL

BK170642 Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia 1330 GMT 16 Apr 87

[Unattributed commentary: "The Good Will Displayed by the PRK"]

[Text] On the occasion of the Cambodian people's traditional new year, Comrade Koy Bunthan, PRK minister of national defense, issued an appeal calling on the exiled Cambodians to abandon the bandit gangs and return to the fatherland.

The appeal noted that the PRK will fully pardon all persons who return to Cambodia or who willingly lay down their weapons. These returnees will be provided with material and allowed to be reunited with their families.

Observers regard this appeal as a display of good will and a measure leading toward national reconciliation. They know the people's power is merciful toward those who have been misled by enemy propaganda or who have been forced to live in the camps of the Pol Pot clique. Cambodia welcomes any persons who want to right their wrong toward the nation through concrete deeds. The authorities have helped find shelter and work for the returnees. In the past year alone, 1,690 former counterrevolutionaries returned to join the people's power. They have been actively working to build a new life.

But the ringleaders of the Pol Pot clique who have committed genocidal crimes will not be pardoned. The people's power will not allow these elements to join in the process of national reconciliation because this crime is unforgettable and unpardonable.

Lokman Sofiyan, famous Indonesian observer, noted recently in MERDEKA that Pol Pot's hands are stained with the Cambodian people's blood. Moreover, Pol Pot and his company do not have any relations with the Cambodian people. They have already become foreign volunteers. For this reason, they must be excluded from the national reconciliation.

The PRK leaders' decision concerning amnesty for the exiled Cambodian groups is directly connected with the recent initiative made by the three Indochinese countries aimed at solving regional problems. The three Indochinese countries have called on the ASEAN member states to consider this problem at the negotiating table to bring about a constructive dialogue.

As for the Vietnamese Army volunteers who have come to help Cambodia withstand threats from the outside, all of them will be withdrawn by 1990. However, this is possible only after the Pol Pot clique is eliminated from the political scene.

Based on a similar precondition, Cambodia is ready to begin talks with individuals or groups of Cambodian exiles to reach national reconciliation.

Evaluating the prospects of the resolution to the Cambodian problem, observers have pointed out that the attitude of the three Indochinese countries reflects their desire to reach a conscientious reconciliation. This will help eradicate the obstacles set by the outside forces along the road toward clearing the situation in this region.

ROGACHEV, PETROVSKIY MEET NEW ZEALAND DELEGATION

LD162014 Moscow TASS in English 1818 GMT 16 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 16 TASS -- Consultations between the USSR and New Zealand on current international and regional problems and also on questions of relations between the two countries were held at the USSR Foreign Ministry on April 15 and 16.

Taking part in the consultations from the Soviet side were: Deputy Foreign Ministers Igor Rogachev, Vladimir Petrovskiy and head of the ministry's Pacific Countries Department Lyudvig Chizhov. New Zealand was represented by M. Norrish, permanent deputy foreign minister of New Zealand, and Alison Stokes, ambassador of New Zealand to the USSR. M. Norrish was received by and had a conversation with Yuliy Vorontsov, first deputy foreign minister of the USSR.

REPORTAGE ON JARUZELSKI MOSCOW VISIT, TALKS

Delegation Members Noted

LD211037 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 21 Apr 87

[Text] As we have already reported, Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish Council of State, arrived in Moscow today on a brief friendly visit at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

Jozef Czyrek, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PZPR Central Committee; Andrzej Wasilewski, secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, and Wladyslaw Gwiazda, deputy chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, arrived with him.

At the airport Comrade Jaruzelski and the party and state figures accompanying him were met by Comrade Ligachev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Comrade Medvedev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and other officials.

Cooperation Document Signed

LD211954 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 21 Apr 87

[Text] Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish Council of State, signed a declaration on Soviet-Polish cooperation in ideology, science, and culture in the Great Kremlin Palace today.

The document expresses the two sides' mutual and firm intention to impart a new quality to interaction in this important sphere. This will facilitate the acceleration of both countries' social and economic development and the solution of the large-scale tasks set by the 27th CPSU Congress and the 10th PZPR Congress.

Present during the signing were, on the Soviet side: Comrades Aliyev, Vorotnikov, Gromyko, Zaykov, Ligachev, Ryzhkov, Solomentsev, Chebrikov, Shevardnadze, Demichev, Dolgikh, Yeltsin, Slyunkov, Sokolov, Talyzin, Yakovlev, Biryukova, Dobrynin, Lukyanov, Medvedev, Razumovskiy and Kapitonov; on the Polish side, Comrades Czyrek, Wasilewski, and other Soviet and Polish officials.

Talks With Gorbachev

PM221255 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Apr 87 p 1

["M.S. Gorbachev Meets With W. Jaruzelski" -- TASS headline]

[Text] There was a meeting 21 April between Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and Wojciech Jaruzelski. Comrade Gorbachev provided information on how the CPSU's policy of accelerating socioeconomic development, restructuring, and democratizing society is being implemented. Broad circles of the working people are involved in implementing this course. They link their hopes for a new upsurge for their socialist homeland and for a qualitative improvement in the life of the Soviet people with this.

Comrade Jaruzelski noted that the Polish public follows the progress of restructuring in the USSR with fervent interest and attention, and wished the Soviet comrades success in this historical work which is an inspiring example for Poland in implementing the policy of socialist renewal.

Speaking of the PZPR's efforts aimed at overcoming the consequences of the crisis, Comrade Jaruzelski dwelt upon the positive changes and the issues still unresolved in industry and agriculture, and in the sociopolitical situation. For the first time in recent years there has been an increase in the ranks of the PZPR, primarily from among representatives of the working class. Nevertheless, there are quite a few difficulties, both domestic and foreign, to be overcome. Although the West has realized that there is no future in exerting influence upon Poland by using forceful methods, various discriminatory measures continue to be applied against it.

Expressing satisfaction at the positive changes in the life of Poland, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev wished the Polish Communists and the fraternal Polish people a successful solution of the problems facing the country and the consolidation of socialism on Polish soil.

The further development of Soviet-Polish cooperation in the economy and other spheres of public activity was examined. The leaders of the two fraternal parties stressed the importance of the recently adopted declaration on cooperation in the fields of ideology, science, and culture for mutual spiritual enrichment of the USSR and Poland's fraternal peoples.

There was an exchange of views on topical issues of international politics, and putting into practice the course collectively agreed upon by the socialist community which is being implemented vigorously by every fraternal country. It was emphasized that it is important to put into practice the opportunity that has opened up by beginning to rid Europe of nuclear weapons. That would signify an abrupt turnabout in the course of events on the continent, toward consolidating peace, and the development of all-round cooperation.

Wojciech Jaruzelski stated in conclusion: With this visit, the Polish Communists would like to stress that they are working at the same pace as the Soviet communists, and are carrying out one common task for the good of both peoples.

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev noted that the CPSU will continue to do all it can in the future, also, in order to deepen interaction with the Polish comrades, and to strengthen friendship with socialist Poland.

The meeting was held in an atmosphere of cordiality and complete mutual understanding.

Gorbachev Speaks at Luncheon

PM221209 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Apr 87 Second Edition p 2

["Text" of speech by CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev at a Kremlin luncheon in honor of Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the Polish United Workers' Party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State of Poland, on 21 April]

[Text] Dear Comrade Jaruzelski,

Dear comrades,

Permit me to extend a cordial, heartfelt welcome here in the Kremlin to Wojciech Jaruzelski, a great friend of the Soviet Union and the outstanding leader of People's Poland, and to Mrs Barbara Jaruzelski.

Our meeting today has a specific purpose -- the signing of a declaration on Soviet-Polish cooperation in the field of ideology, science, and culture. It is a well-conceived and meaningful document. It makes it possible to fully achieve the immense potential of Soviet-Polish relations in such complex and important fields as cultural and intellectual affairs, as well as broadening cooperation and communication between the two peoples.

There is every reason to say that another major step has been taken in constructing an integral system of cooperation between our countries on the basis of equal relations of true partnership and cooperation embracing every area of social activity.

The Soviet Union is at a major turning-point today. We have set out to accomplish colossal tasks: the acceleration of scientific, technological, social and economic progress, the renewal of the entire social organism, and the broadening of democracy. All this increases dramatically the importance of the party's theoretical ideological work, the world outlook, scientific knowledge, political and artistic culture, and moral values in the life of society.

People's Poland, as we know, has also reached a turning point. Polish society has lived through a deep crisis and drawn serious lessons from it. Optimum forms of socialist development are being worked out in your country, just as in ours. Hence the natural need to make better use of our peoples' joint intellectual potential and the international experience of socialism.

This holds true primarily for social sciences, for the study of the laws of social development under socialism. Theory is called upon to point the way for everyday life and to supply answers to questions arising in practice.

The task of uncompromisingly fighting doctrinairism and dogmatism is facing us squarely. It is necessary to revive the living soul of our great teaching, taking guidance from Lenin's well-known dictum that Marxism is not anything final and untouchable, that it merely laid the cornerstones of the science which socialists should advance in every direction if they do not want to fall behind the times.

Comrade Jaruzelski and I agree that our parties bear responsibility for the continuous development and extension of cultural and intellectual communication between workers, farmers, intellectuals, and young people, and, naturally, workers in ideology and culture. We have some experience of such direct and effective ties: What I mean is primarily new forms of economic cooperation organized by our countries.

What do we think is needed in the first place? I will say, it is necessary to relate ideological cooperation to practice more effectively, to make it more relevant to the practice of socialist renewal. Broad sections of the population must become involved in cultural exchanges, and barriers to mass-scale contacts must be removed -- in other words, that sphere must be made more democratic.

I would like to make one more point. Historical traditions have an important role to play in the life of peoples and in the development of relations between them. We reverse the memory of the joint struggle of Russian and Polish democrats and revolutionaries against tsarism, the comradeship-in-arms of the Red Army and Wojsko Polskie in the battle against the Hitlerite invasion, and fraternal mutual assistance in healing the wounds inflicted by the war and building socialism.

Naturally, the grim legacy left to us by the ruling classes of prerevolutionary Russia and bourgeois Poland cannot be discounted either. We ought to see the truth in its entirety so that there should be no room for invention or withholding of facts, for the so-called blank spots in the chronicle of relations between our two countries. History is not merely a record of facts; it is primarily experience from which lessons must be learned, a school called upon to teach mutual understanding and trust among peoples.

This is precisely our view of the main task of Soviet and Polish scholars concerned with history.

Also, Comrade Jaruzelski and I have used this opportunity to brief each other on the situation in our countries and to review Soviet-Polish relations. It gave us pleasure to state that the organization of new, advanced forms of economic cooperation is making good progress, although there still is a great deal to do.

We also discussed frankly, in a comradely manner, those complex problems which the CPSU and the PZPR have to tackle, naturally, with due regard for the specific characteristics of each country's situation. Without belittling difficulties in any way, Comrade Jaruzelski and I agree that at present there are necessary conditions, both economic and political, for improving economic development as a whole in the next few years, for giving fresh impetus to it and to work out more efficient forms of its organization.

Here, too, we are going to act resolutely, without wasting time. This is necessary to improve the life of our peoples and strengthen the position of world socialism. This, naturally applies to international affairs as well. We think highly of the possibility of acting jointly with the Polish People's Republic and the other Warsaw Treaty member states in the large-scale and strenuous efforts to rid Europe of nuclear weapons, to create an auspicious atmosphere for all-embracing mutually beneficial cooperation, and to strengthen peace and security on the basis that emerged as a result of the Second World War and postwar development. Poland with its substantial political potential and prestige is making an important contribution towards accomplishing the concerted foreign policy goals of the socialist community's countries.

Today, for obvious reasons, questions of eliminating both sides' medium-range missiles, operational and tactical missiles and also tactical nuclear systems in Europe are the focus of attention. The Soviet leadership consulted with leaders of the allied countries on the whole of these important problems and was given their complete support.

Last week U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and a large group of congressmen led by House Speaker Jim Wright visited Moscow. Serious talks were held. Both the United States and we attach much importance to them. What is our impression of those talks.

On the one hand, we saw a desire to revitalize dialogue and to better understand our intentions and the motivation of our actions. On the other, we saw anew how difficult it is to make real politics with the United States.

We explained over and again the need for balancing interests. The balance of interests means first and foremost a scrupulous taking into account of the military-strategic security of one's partner and the principle of equality in every aspect of armaments at every stage of their reduction. It means renunciation of the following: any attempt at diktat in foreign politics, at imposing one's views, let alone ways of doing things, and considering other countries and whole regions of the world to be one's fiefdom, known in the U.S. political language as the sphere of "U.S. vital interests."

We once again told our U.S. partners frankly and pointedly [predmetno]: Here is our view of the world. It is realistic and takes into consideration the controversies and interdependencies of everything and everyone. Its integrity and interdependence are objectively conditioned by economic, political, military, ecological, and all other circumstances. Therefore we told them let us consider how better to tackle problems. It makes no difference to us if the Republicans, Democrats, or anyone else are governing the United States. We will do business with those who represent the United States at the time.

What do we propose concretely in Europe?

First, to eliminate all Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles already in Europe in the next five years, leaving only 100 warheads on these missiles each in the Asian portion of the USSR and in the United States.

Second, to simultaneously eliminate Soviet and U.S. operational and tactical missiles in Europe and to hold talks on these missiles in the eastern USSR and in the territory of the United States.

Third, to establish the strictest verification system up to and including on-site inspections to ensure both sides comply with their obligations.

The Soviet delegation to the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva has been instructed to begin immediately on April 23, together with the U.S. delegation, to draw up concrete agreements on these issues.

Fourth, to examine and settle the matter of tactical missiles, in special multilateral talks according to the Budapest initiative of the USSR, Poland, and the other Warsaw Treaty member states on reducing armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals.

It transpired in the course of exchanges of views with George Shultz that the U.S. Administration is manifesting an intention to retreat from the positions agreed upon in Reykjavik. The United States is returning to "sublevels" in strategic offensive weapons, which in practice would lead to a breakdown in the structure of the Soviet strategic forces and detract from the USSR's security. The timeframe for 50 percent cuts in strategic offensive weapons is being arbitrarily stretched from five to seven years. The time during which the ABM Treaty will be respected, conversely, is being cut back from ten to seven years. We firmly stated that we do not agree to this departure from Reykjavik and to those U.S. proposals.

Simultaneously, we proposed that key provisions, so to speak, be formulated on the following matters:

-- on 50-percent cuts in the strategic offensive weapons of the Soviet Union and the United States in conjunction with tackling the question of strengthening the ABM Treaty's regime during five years so that by this period's end each side should have not more than 1,600 strategic delivery vehicles (ICBM's, SLM's and heavy bombers) and not more than 6,000 nuclear warheads on these vehicles;

-- on a fundamental accord to strengthen the regime of the ABM Treaty, envisioning both sides, mutual obligation not to withdraw from the treaty for ten years and to strictly respect it. To this end agreement should be reached on a list of technology allowed or prohibited from being launched into outer space and on confining research into space ABM defenses to laboratories -- that is, to institutes, testing grounds, and factories on earth;

-- and finally, on full-scale talks with the United States to ban all nuclear testing in which agreement could be reached on a formula to ratify the so-called Threshold Treaties of 1974 and 1976 and to reach accord on substantial reductions in the yield and number of nuclear explosions.

We stated to the U.S. Administration our readiness to immediately begin formulating "key principles" on the above problems. In so doing, we proceed from the idea that, along with a treaty on medium-range missiles, they could become a subject of accord at the summit level.

There are lively and diverse reactions to our latest initiatives from all over the world. What is their gist? The main thing is, judging by various sources of information, that the Europeans, who are the first to be affected by our initiatives and to a larger extent than anyone else, approve and welcome our steps. We see that they have correctly understood us, namely, our desire to rid Europe of all nuclear weapons, to start the real process of demilitarization in the continent and to have national defenses kept at the minimum truly sensible level and on a perfectly equal and fair basis.

We are grateful to millions of Europeans for that understanding and trust.

As for the political circles, or rather the ruling circles of the NATO countries, we naturally could not have failed to notice a positive reaction to the Moscow talks from the U.S. President, although he voiced his optimism in a rather abstract manner. We have also noticed the signs of an all too familiar gambit, with "Ivan pointing to Petr and Petr to Ivan," as we say. The European leaders tell us that it is up to us, Soviets and Americans, to agree on the elimination of our missiles, etc., while the United States says it is not against this -- but that its allies hesitate and the U.S. has to respect its Atlantic commitments. It is clear that if this swing is again set in motion, nothing good will come out of it.

Naturally, agreements on nuclear disarmament will call for great efforts and political will on the part of the Soviet Union and the United States. We are not wanting in resolve and political will in the struggle for nuclear-free world. We are glad to have by our side in these efforts our dependable Polish friends, other fraternal socialist countries, and all the peace forces. The matter now is up to the United States and its European allies, and we have every reason to expect from them a constructive reply that would be acceptable to our proposals. History and the peoples will never forgive those politicians who refuse to make use of the existing unique chance to take a major step towards a nuclear-free world.

I must say that those who think that it only takes some pressure on the Soviet Union to force it to meet the West halfway badly delude themselves. It is time to realize that it is futile to talk to us from the position of strength. We are looking for ways to disarmament not because we are weak or fear anyone but because we are honestly committed to the cause of peace and put the task of saving the human race above everything else.

It is time to begin restructuring the entire system of international relations so that strength, especially military strength, should never again be a means of settling international problems. It is not the arguments of weapons but the weapons of arguments for peace that should determine mankind's fate. This is what the Soviet Union, Poland, and other socialist countries are fighting for.

Permit me to tell Comrade Wojciech Jaruzelski, his esteemed wife, and other Polish comrades here "Sto lat" [traditional Polish greeting] according to the Polish custom.

We ask Comrade Wojciech Jaruzelski to convey from the Soviet leadership, the communists of the Soviet Union, and all the Soviet people cordial greetings and best wishes to the Polish leaders, communists, and other people of fraternal Poland.

May Soviet-Polish friendship and our cooperation grow stronger and richer with new contents.

Jaruzelski Reply Speech

PM221241 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Apr 87 Second Edition p 2

[Speech by Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish State Council, at a luncheon given in his honor at the Kremlin on 21 April]

[Text] Dear Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. Distinguished Raisa Maximovna Gorbachova.

Dear Soviet comrades and friends,

It was precisely 42 years ago, on 21 April 1945, that the Polish-Soviet Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance was signed. As one of the fundamental international legal acts of the reborn Polish state, it reflected an essential breakthrough in the relations between our states and nations. Its fundamental essence has fully withstood the test of time.

When signatures were put under this historic document here at the Kremlin, over a space of thousands of kilometres from the Volga to the Odra Rivers there extended burned-down ruins and graves. Soviet and Polish soldiers were still falling on Berlin's outskirts, but a peaceful future was already being born in the dying fires of the war. The common experience drawn from the deadly struggle against Hitlerite fascism is best reflected in a verse by a Leningrad poetess, inscribed on a granite wall of the Piskarevski Cemetery monument: "No one has been forgotten. Nothing have we forgotten."

We also have not forgotten the liberation deed by the Red Army, the Soviet Union's decisive role in Poland's regaining of her western and northern territories, and its support for Poland's position in the international arena. We have not forgotten the hard postwar beginnings, Soviet grain shipments for the destroyed towns, help in bringing life back to our heroic capital of Warsaw, know-how and machinery and equipment deliveries to support the great cause of industrialization. We shall not forget the material assistance, or "true friendship in need" in the past few, extremely complex years.

The new shape of relations between our countries is and will remain a major element of the new alignment of forces in Europe.

The past decades have forcefully confirmed:

The Soviet Union is committed to the existence of an independent, strong, and allied Poland.

Poland is committed to the alliance, friendship, and cooperation with the powerful, socialist neighbor.

The declaration signed today and the accompanying program of development of Polish-Soviet cooperation in ideology, science, and culture herald a new, higher stage in mutual relations.

Such was the message of the cordial words you have just spoken. Just that sincere, fraternal spirit marked today's talks, which have confirmed full concordance of assessments, intentions, and plans on all the issues discussed. Strengthening cooperation and uniting our efforts going in this direction bring lasting, innovative values to the practice of relations between the socialist countries.

Socioeconomic laws can neither be cheated nor bypassed. High price is paid for departures from the Leninist principles, for delays and avoidance of necessary reforms. We have felt the consequences of this to this day.

We draw appropriate conclusions from the experience of the past and the recent, painful lesson. Laboriously and unyieldingly we have been implementing the line of socialist renewal laid down by the 9th and developed by the 10th Congress of the PUWP. Development of democracy and self-government and at the same time strengthening the law and discipline are a lasting and irreversible course of our party. To ensure that the working man and citizen feels in charge of his socialist state, we see as the fundamental condition of releasing society's energy effectiveness of the economic reform and radical solutions of its new stage.

Stages and conditions of the building of socialism are different in our countries, but the dominating feature is a close parallelism of the policy of socialist renewal and reforms in Poland and the Soviet strategy of reconstruction and acceleration.

The deep transformations taking place in the Soviet Union and the creatively inspiring style of thinking and acting meet with the great and warm interest of Polish society. It is an important factor in strengthening our friendship.

A new quality of our economic and scientific-technological cooperation is being formed. The old forms are insufficient today. An effective road to the future leads through the development of direct production and research links, integration of material and intellectual potential, and a higher level of many-sided cooperation within CEMA.

The equal-right character of our relations is strengthening. The essence of these relations consists of mutual confidence, respect for national dignity, and for independence of ways and solutions. This reflects the principle of responsibility of each party before its own nation, and simultaneously an internationalist care for the unity and weal of our entire community. Your personal contribution, Mikhail Sergeyevich, to the shaping of just such a climate between our parties and states is generally known and enjoys authentic respect and liking among Poles.

Long and complicated was the history of the neighborhood of our nations. It is our concordant desire to make the chapters of our common history speak always openly and honestly. We shall strengthen all that unites us and overcome and eliminate all that may hinder the achievement of common goals.

Openness, truth, and realism well serve the friendship of our nations. We live along one boundary strip but still do not know each other well enough. Human contacts which are always and everywhere the source of true rapprochement are often of a festive, formal character. It is our common aspiration to deepen mutual information, improve the flow of experiences, broaden the exchange of cultural goods, and stimulate Marxist-Leninist boldness in the raising of pressing new, tense problems by the social sciences.

The most important feature of Polish-Soviet friendship is direct contacts of youth and enlivening and diversifying forms of cooperation of its communities and organizations. It is young people who should lead in the difficult struggle of the new against the old, innovations against conservatism, and acceleration against inaction, who should move with courage and impetus to the socialism of the turn of the century.

The very nature of socialism aims at a peaceful future. We zealously support the whole complex of Soviet initiatives to cure the international atmosphere, to limit and then eliminate mass destruction weapons, and to reduce armed forces and weapons in Europe. This peace offensive wins an even broader response and weakens the position of the forces of cold war and confrontation.

Yet, the international situation is still difficult, even dangerous. The arms race continues. Attempts are repeated to question the Yalta and Potsdam accords. The interference in internal affairs of particular states continues. Even if politically and morally discredited restrictions are lifted, various forms of economically and technologically painful discrimination still remain.

In recent years, when by the power of our own decisions, by our own efforts we put a stop to the dramatic course of events, our country became an object of particularly sharp attacks of imperialism. Socialist Poland has survived the hard test; it has not given in to foreign dictate. We have decided and will decide about our matters in a sovereign manner.

We do not, however, fence off ourselves from anyone. We want to develop mutually beneficial relations with all countries, to actively participate in the international division of labor, and to act in favor of the peaceful coexistence of nations.

Soon we will, together with our dear Soviet comrades and friends, celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. Its ideological heritage is being expanded at present by new, revolutionary values.

Our formation has entered another stage of its development. The future of peace and social progress are now more tightly linked than ever before with the creative thought of contemporary socialism and with the accelerated development of the Soviet Union and of our entire community.

To Soviet Communists, to the fraternal Soviet people, on behalf of supreme party and state authorities and on behalf of the entire Polish people, we extend sincere and warm wishes in full realization of the 27th CPSU Congress resolutions, as well as words of cordial greetings and lasting friendship.

I raise a toast:

To the great Soviet nation, to its guiding force -- the party of Lenin,

To the internationalist bond between the Polish United Workers Party and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union,

To the indestructible alliance between the Polish People's Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,

III. 22 Apr 87

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
EASTERN EUROPE

To your health, Mikhail Sergeyevich, to the health of your esteemed wife, and to the health of all the Soviet friends present here,

To peace and socialism

Luncheon Guests Noted

LD211527 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 21 Apr 87

[Excerpts] The CPSU Central Committee gave a luncheon today in the Grand Kremlin Palace in honor of Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the State Council of the Polish People's Republic. Present were Comrade Czyrek, Wasilewski, and other party and state officials from the Polish People's Republic.

The luncheon was attended by Comrades Gorbachev, Aliyev, Vorotnikov, Gromyko, Zaykov, Ligachev, Ryzhkov, Solomentsev, Chebrikov, Shevardnadze, Demichev, Dolgikh, Yeltsin, Slyunkov, Sokolov, Talyzin, Yakovlev, Biryukova, Dobrynin, Lukyanov, Medvedev, Razumovskiy, Kapitonov, and other officials.

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, made a speech.

[passage omitted]

Wojciech Jaruzelski made a speech in reply.

The speeches by Comrades Gorbachev and Jaruzelski were listened to with great attention, and greeted by prolonged applause. The luncheon was held in a cordial and comradely atmosphere.

Talks With PZPR Officials

LD211301 Moscow TASS in English 1226 GMT 21 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 21 TASS -- Aleksandr Yakovlev, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Vadim Medvedev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, met today with Jozef Czyrek, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party, and Andrzej Wasilewski, secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party who had come to the USSR for a visit together with Wojciech Jaruzelski.

During the conversation held in a friendly and cordial atmosphere they discussed a further development of cooperation between the CPSU and the Polish United Workers Party in connection with the adoption of a declaration on Soviet-Polish cooperation in the sphere of ideology, science and culture.

Kamentsev Meets With Gwiazda

LD212354 Warsaw PAP in English 1550 GMT 21 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow, April 21 -- Polish Deputy Prime Minister Wladyslaw Gwiazda held a talk with Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union Vladimir Kamentsev here today.

The two reviewed problems of further development of economic, trade, scientific and technological cooperation between the two states. Special attention was given to new forms of cooperation, especially to the development of direct links between Soviet and Polish enterprises as well as to the creation of joint enterprises. It was stressed that there exist broad possibilities to expand and deepen such cooperation.

The talk passed in a friendly atmosphere.

Ceremony at Polish Embassy

LD212011 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1700 GMT 21 Apr 87

[Text] Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and the chairman of the State Council of the PPR, who arrived in Moscow for a brief friendly visit, participated today in a festive ceremony at the Polish Embassy in Moscow to hand over archive valuables within the framework of a cultural and scientific exchange between the Soviet Union and Poland.

Participating in the exchange of cultural valuables were Comrades Ligachev, Medvedev, Czyrek, and Wasilewski. The Soviet side handed over books from the stocks of the former Ossolineum Library, including editions of works by eminent figures of the Polish enlightenment of the 18th and 19th centuries and of such major writers as Adam Mickiewicz, a phraseology dictionary of the Polish language in many volumes from the beginning of the 19th century, and other works from the cultural heritage of the Polish people.

The Polish side will hand over manuscripts and the books concerning the history of Russia and the Ukraine. Among them are the Kiev manuscripts from the 16th and 17th centuries. A report of a commission on building Moscow and St Petersburg, the travels of Count Boris Pavlovich Sheremetyev to the European states, and other unique books archive documents.

Those who spoke at the ceremony expressed deep satisfaction over the fact that the anniversary of the treaty on friendship, cooperation, and mutual assistance between the Soviet Union and the PPR has been celebrated with a great event -- the exchange of valuable works of literature, jewels in the pages of cultural heritage of our people.

Wojciech Jaruzelski awarded badges of honor to a group of prominent figures of Soviet culture for their services to Polish culture.

Arkhipova, national artist of the Soviet Union, thanked the leader of the fraternal country on behalf of those who were awarded. Then archive valuables being exchanged were displayed.

RYZHKOVA RECEIVES LUXEMBOURG FOREIGN MINISTER POOS

LD211311 Moscow TASS in English 1055 GMT 21 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 21 TASS -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received in the Kremlin today Jacques Poos, deputy chairman of the Government and minister of foreign affairs of Luxembourg who is staying in Moscow on an official visit.

During the conversation held in a businesslike atmosphere they discussed international problems of mutual interest, as well as practical questions connected with relations between the two countries.

Nikolay Ryzhkov told Jacques Poos about the profound transformations taking place in various spheres of the life of Soviet society and emphasized the fundamental connection between the tasks of socio-economic development of the country set by the 27th CPSU Congress and the peaceful foreign policy of the USSR.

Jacques Poos pointed out that the processes of the revitalization of public life now under way in the USSR evoked lively interest in Luxembourg.

In the course of the conversation Nikolay Ryzhkov and Jacques Poos devoted much attention to the latest Soviet initiatives on the elimination of Soviet and American intermediate-range missiles in Europe, on shorter-range missiles, on chemical weapons and other topical problems connected with the limitation and reduction of armaments.

Nikolay Ryzhkov drew the attention of Jacques Poos to the fact that many NATO countries which favoured in general the reduction of nuclear armaments in Europe attached a lot of strings to its practical implementation which, in their opinion, were brought about by their concern for the maintenance of the balance of forces in Europe.

However, these reservations are groundless, because both the Soviet Union and other Warsaw Treaty member countries demonstrate in action their readiness to reach agreements on any questions connected with the curbing of the arms race, and with disarmament on an equitable and mutually acceptable basis.

"The allied socialist countries come out in favour of a stage-by-stage lowering of the level of military confrontation in Europe with continuous maintenance of military balance at an ever lower level".

He recalled the respective proposals put forward by the Budapest meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member states concerning cutbacks in the armed forces and conventional arms in Europe. NATO countries have not given a specific reply to the proposals up to now.

The Soviet side emphasized that West European countries could and must contribute, through specific and constructive moves, to strengthening all-European security and peace throughout the world.

The sides set out their respective points of view on a number of other international issues. Both similarity of positions and difference of approaches to a number of issues were pointed out.

Speaking of bilateral relations, Nikolay Ryzhkov emphasized that Soviet people regarded the people of Luxembourg with respect and sympathies. He said the two peoples were brought together by common striving for peace and for the development of mutually beneficial cooperation.

Guided by the Leninist principles of its Leninist foreign policy, the Soviet Union builds its relations with Luxembourg on the basis of equality, mutual respect, and non-interference in internal affairs.

The sides declared for continuation and broadening of the Soviet-Luxembourg political dialogue as well as of trade-and-economic, scientific-and-technical, and cultural contacts, and for an active search for new forms and possibilities for strengthening cooperation.

Confidence was expressed that the visit to the USSR by Jacques Poos would serve to deepen mutual understanding between the two countries in the interests of improving the international situation.

Shevardnadze Meets Poos

LD211751 Moscow TASS in English 1709 GMT 21 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 21 TASS -- Talks have opened today between Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR foreign minister, and Jacques Poos, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs of Luxembourg.

The sides discussed in a constructive spirit problems of European and international security and disarmament.

The talks centered on the qualitatively new situation created by the recent initiatives, including on medium and shorter-range missiles in Europe, which were put forward by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee in Prague and during the recent Soviet-American talks in Moscow. It was pointed out that the Soviet proposals, the agreement in principle reached between the USSR and the USA to intensify efforts in that direction have opened up real opportunities for practical steps to eliminate whole classes of nuclear missiles in Europe.

Eduard Shevardnadze stressed that now the Soviet Union has the right to expect from the West constructive and sufficiently speedy, specific return steps. The resolution of the task of lowering the level of nuclear confrontation in Europe directly concerns the security interests of all the European nations. In view of that it takes active practical steps by each European state to resolve it.

The ministers have agreed that to keep up the momentum on all aspects of disarmament, special significance attaches to reaching agreement on a cut in the armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe, elimination of chemical weapons.

The ministers stressed the need for developing and deepening the all-European process, dynamic progress in all of its areas -- in the field of security, in the political, economic and humanitarian fields. In common opinion, successful completion of the Vienna meeting of representatives of the states -- participants in the European conference on European security and cooperation will be an important contribution to progress of all-European cooperation and raising it to a qualitatively new level.

SHEVARDNADZE RECEIVES FRENCH AMBASSADOR 20 APR

LD201641 Moscow TASS in English 1450 GMT 20 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 20 TASS -- Some questions of the further development of Soviet-French relations, including political contacts, were discussed today by the USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and the French Ambassador in Moscow Yves Pagniez.

The minister received the ambassador on the latter's request. The conversation passed in a businesslike and frank spirit.

ZAGLADIN, DELEGATION HOLD TALKS IN STOCKHOLM

Arrive 6 Apr

LD060732 Moscow TASS in English 0720 GMT 6 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 6 TASS -- A delegation of the Foreign Affairs Commissions of the chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet has left Moscow for Stockholm for a return visit at the invitation of the Foreign Policy Commission of Sweden's Riksdag [parliament].

The delegation is led by Vadim Zagladin, secretary of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of the Union, first deputy head of the CPSU Central Committee's International Department.

Received by Foreign Minister

PM101820 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In Sweden"]

[Text] Stockholm, 7 Apr -- The delegation from the USSR Supreme Soviet chambers' Foreign Affairs Commissions headed by V.V. Zagladin, secretary of the Soviet of the Union Foreign Affairs Commission and first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Section, visiting Sweden today laid flowers at the grave of Olof Palme, the eminent Swedish statesman and politician.

The delegation visited the Riksdag and met with Ingegard Troedsson, first deputy chairman of the Riksdag. There was a discussion on further developing ties between the two countries' parliaments, ties that were been given new impetus by the recent visit to the USSR by a Riksdag delegation headed by Riksdag Chairman Ingemund Bengtsson.

During a conversation with members of the Riksdag Foreign Policy Commission the Soviet parliamentarians were acquainted with the Swedish representatives' views on a number of international problems and gave a detailed account of the USSR's position on curbing the arms race and removing the threat of world nuclear catastrophe.

Commission Chairman Stig Alemyr gave a luncheon in the Soviet delegation's honor.

The delegation was received by Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson. The two sides discussed topical problems of the present-day international situation as well as questions of further developing Soviet-Swedish relations. V.V. Zagladin informed the Swedish foreign minister about the USSR's foreign policy moves aimed at reversing the arms race, especially in nuclear arms, and making the process of disarmament irreversible.

S. Andersson stated that Sweden shares and supports the Soviet Union's peace initiatives, particularly its new proposal to remove all medium-range missiles from Europe, and expressed the hope that these will produce concrete results. He said the Swedish Government intends to continue playing an active role in the struggle for peace and disarmament, including within the "Delhi Six," to support the creation of a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe, and to oppose the militarization of space.

Both sides noted the positive development of Soviet-Swedish relations in many spheres and expressed their mutual desire to deepen equal good-neighbor cooperation between the two countries.

The delegation held a friendly meeting with the Union of Sweden-Soviet Union Societies' leadership. Representatives of the union of friendship societies described the work done by its local organizations to spread knowledge about Soviet life in Sweden. This work assumes special significance in view of the Great October Socialist Revolution's 70th anniversary, which is being celebrated this year. The delegation head acquainted the union's members with the process of restructuring and the radical transformations of all spheres of Soviet society's life. The Soviet parliamentarians wished the union's activists further successes in their work, which is a great contribution to the strengthening of mutual understanding and relations of friendship between the Soviet and Swedish peoples.

Meet With Swedish Officials

PM101551 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Visit Continues"]

[Text] Stockholm, 8 Apr -- The visit to Sweden by a delegation of the Foreign Affairs Commissions of the USSR Supreme Soviet chambers headed by V.V. Zagladin, secretary of the Soviet of the Union Foreign Affairs Commission and first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, continuing.

The delegation met with Ivar Nordberg, chairman of the ruling Social Democratic Labor Party of Sweden parliamentary group.

Conversations took place with Ingemar Eliasson, deputy chairman of the People's Party, Olof Johansson, chairman of the Center Party, and Carl Bildt, chairman of the Moderate Coalition Party.

During their meetings and conversations the Soviet parliamentarians spoke about progress in resolving tasks of carrying out profound transformations in the life of Soviet society. They provided information on the USSR's new approach to resolving crucial problems of the present day, especially removing the threat of nuclear war, destroying all the world's nuclear weapons, reducing conventional weapons, and creating an all-embracing system of international security.

The leaders of the leading political parties informed the delegation members about Sweden's domestic political situation and explained their views on a number of international problems, including regional questions. The closeness or agreement of the two countries' stances on many major problems of the present-day and also the difference in approaches to other questions were noted in their conversations. Swedish representatives noted that the new processes of socioeconomic development and democratization now taking place in the Soviet Union arouse deep interest in Sweden.

A luncheon was given in honor of the USSR's supreme legislative body's envoys by E.-O. Persson, chairman of Stockholm's City Council.

The delegation held talks with Lars Werner, chairman of the Left Communist Party, which proceeded in a comradely atmosphere. Warner assessed positively the changes being carried out in the Soviet Union according to decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums. He expressed confidence that these processes, together with the USSR's large-scale peace-loving initiatives, will help increase the Soviet Union's prestige in the international arena and among communists and progressive and democratic forces throughout the world.

Zagladin Holds News Conference

LD082152 Moscow TASS in English 2121 GMT 8 Apr 87

[Text] Stockholm April 8 TASS -- A press conference was held at the Embassy of the USSR in Sweden today.

Those present were addressed by Vadim Zagladin, the leader of the visiting delegation of the Foreign Affairs Commissions of the Chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet (parliament), secretary of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of the Union, first deputy head of the International Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU).

"The current international situation", the leader of the Soviet delegation said, "urgently calls for conducting a large-scale dialogue on the issues of strengthening security on earth and for manifesting a new political thinking, which is particularly essential in the realities of the nuclear-missile age as well as considering U.S. endeavors to turn outer space, too, into an arena for military confrontation".

"It is precisely such a new approach that is being shown in international relations now by the Soviet Union which strives to transact affairs with due account for the interests of all countries on a democratic basis".

"Such a policy is interconnected with the course towards reorganisation and democratisation of all spheres of life in Soviet society itself".

"Pursuing the course towards attaining the goals of general and complete disarmament, towards the elimination of nuclear weapons, and the establishment of a system of comprehensive international security, the Soviet Union backs it up by practical deeds".

"This is illustrated once again by the Soviet Union's proposal on the elimination of all the medium-range missiles in Europe".

"The proposal not only opens up real opportunities to remove these weapons from European soil but is also directed on the whole towards achieving progress on the entire range of disarmament issues. This is why it has found support and understanding among the governments of most countries, including Sweden."

When answering a question about the situation in Afghanistan, Vadim Zagladin emphasised that the Soviet Union, not less than other countries, was interested in the earliest and fair settlement of the problems which had been brought about in connection with that country.

"However, the United States and a number of other countries in every way seek to frustrate the national reconciliation process which is being carried out in the country by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan (DRA) and to reduce matters only to the issue of withdrawal of the limited contingent of Soviet troops which is in that country at the request of the legitimate government of the DRA".

"The Soviet Union is known to have already taken steps in this direction, returning home part of its troops".

"The main prerequisite for a settlement of the Afghanistan issue would be the provision of reliable guarantees which would rule out any armed interference from the outside in the internal affairs of sovereign Afghanistan".

"It is precisely against such a just solution to the issue that certain circles in the West come out, resorting at the same time to various anti-Soviet fabrications".

The leader of the Soviet delegation also set out the Soviet Union's point of view on the problem of establishing a nuclear-free zone in Europe's north, spoke of the stand of the Soviet side in the issue involving the 1972 Soviet-U.S. treaty on the limitation of anti-ballistic missile systems, and answered questions concerning the present state of Soviet-Swedish relations.

Stockholm Reports on Conference

LD081902 Stockholm Domestic Service in Swedish 16 GMT 8 Apr 87

[Text] A delegation from the USSR Supreme Soviet has been visiting Sweden, or rather the Swedish Riksdag. During talks here in Stockholm, there have been many discussions on the new openness, or glasnost, under Mikhail Gorbachev. Today it was the turn of Vadim Zagladin, foreign affairs expert in the CPSU, to spread the gospel at a news conference.

[Correspondent Jan-Olof Pettersson] We are in the [words indistinct] of democratizing the electoral system, said Zagladin. This means that in the future there will be more candidates to choose from, and candidates will be appointed following more discussions in various organs. The core of the new policy is that citizens are to be assured of the right to participate in social life; those in power will be forced to account for what they do, and those who cannot do their jobs will be forced to resign.

Zagladin went on to paint a very bright picture of links between the Soviet Union and Sweden; he believed current problems can be solved. He also had a very good impression of the leader of the Moderate Unity Party, Carl Bildt. Zagladin described the Nordic countries' resolution to let a commission of officials investigate the question of nuclear-free weapons zone as an important step, but he said the Soviet Union will wait and see what the Nordic countries do.

Zagladin was also pressed on other questions, such as the use of microphones for spying at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow. He viewed U.S. protests as an attempt to discredit the new policies of the Soviet Union and its newly won prestige, as he put it.

Well, what about the microphones at the Swedish Embassy and the Swedish protest? On this, Zagladin said he found it incredible that such things could have happened.

Finally, the Soviet guest confirmed that party leader Gorbachev will be going to Prague later this week. He also called on the world's media to keep a close eye on Gorbachev's visit.

Delegation Tours Industries

LD112011 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1752 GMT 10 Apr 87

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation visiting Sweden continues to acquaint itself with the country. The delegation is headed by Vadim Zagladin, secretary of the Soviet of the Union Foreign Affairs Commission and first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department.

During their stay in the town of Goteborg, the Soviet parliamentarians visited Volvo, one of Sweden's largest automobile factories, where they toured the shops and familiarized themselves with the production process, trade union activity, and industrial safety at this modern industrial enterprise. The firm's management then hosted a luncheon in honor of the visiting parliamentarians.

The guests then visited Goteborg municipality. In the course of a conversation, the delegation members were briefed on the running of the city services, municipal design and building plans, and measures being taken for preserving the city's environment.

During the visit, the delegation also looked in at a number of large industrial concerns that cooperate with Soviet foreign trade organizations and departments: Alfa-Laval, Atlas Copco, and Procordia. Conversations took place with Hans Stahle, chairman of the Alfa-Laval board and of the Swedish Committee for Promoting Trade with the USSR, and with managers of other enterprises. The Soviet parliamentarians stressed that the course towards accelerating scientific and technical progress is now gathering speed in the USSR. This opens up new opportunities for developing Soviet-Swedish cooperation in trade, the Swedish business representatives expressed great interest in deepening ties with Soviet partners, which, in their opinion, are making a great contribution, as a whole, to developing and maintaining good-neighboring relations between the USSR and Sweden.

Wishes were expressed for restructuring of the USSR's foreign economic ties to be speeded up and for the procedures implementing these ties to be simplified.

Vadim Zagladin held a conversation today with Bo Toresson, secretary of the Social Democratic Labor Party of Sweden [SAP], and Gunnar Stenarv, the party's secretary for international ties. They discussed issues of relations between the CPSU and the SAP, as well as a number of problems of international politics, especially nuclear disarmament and the situation in the world's flashpoints. It was commonly expressed that the problems of reducing forces and conventional weapons in Europe must be solved with the participation of all countries, including the neutral ones. It was noted that, despite the difference in official positions, communists and social democrats have the common goal of achieving and safeguarding a stable peace and disarmament. The SAP representatives stressed that they follow with great interest the new processes of socioeconomic and political reforms now taking place in the Soviet Union. A mutual interest in the development of relations between the CPSU and the SAP was expressed.

A conversation took place between Vadim Zagladin and Rolf Hagel, chairman of the board of the Swedish Communist Workers' Association, which passed off in a warm, comradely atmosphere. Taking part in the conversations and meetings was USSR Ambassador to Sweden Boris Pankin.

Delegation Departs 11 Apr

LD111640 Moscow TASS in English 1626 GMT 11 Apr 87

[Text] Stockholm April 11 TASS -- A delegation from the foreign relations commissions of the two houses of the USSR Supreme Soviet left Stockholm for home today after returning a visit at the invitation of the foreign policy commission of the Riksdag (parliament) of Sweden.

The delegation was led by Vadim Zagladin, secretary of the Foreign Relations Commission of the Soviet of the Union, which is one of the two houses of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and first deputy head of the International Department at the CPSU Central Committee.

ANNIVERSARY OF FINNISH FRIENDSHIP TREATY OBSERVED

Presidium, Koivisto Greetings

PM071155 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Apr 87 p 1

[TASS report: "To Mark Anniversary"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has sent Finnish President Mauno Koivisto a telegram that states:

"On the 39th anniversary of the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Aid, an event of note for our countries, we send you, Mr President, and the entire Finnish people the most heartfelt congratulations and good wishes on behalf of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the peoples of the Soviet Union."

"In a jubilee year for the USSR and Finland -- the year of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution and Finland's state independence -- we should like to note again with satisfaction that the 1948 treaty reliably serves the fundamental interests of our countries. On its basis the sides' joint efforts have ensured the advance of mutually advantageous and mutually enriching cooperation in many spheres of Soviet-Finnish communication and achieved a high level of mutual trust. This experience and knowledge, given material form in the practical deeds of our states, acquires special resonance in the present nuclear missile age for the transition to smoother, more harmonious international relations, for the assertion of an all-encompassing system of security, reliable and equal for all peoples.

"We express the confidence that the Soviet Union and Finland, firmly adhering to the path defined by the 1948 treaty, will lend even greater dynamism to their cooperation and collaboration in the interests of our states and in the interests of the consolidation of peace and international security.

Mr President, please accept our sincere wishes for successes and good health for you personally and prosperity for the people of friendly Finland."

The reply telegram from M. Koivisto says:

"Today we are celebrating a notable date in Finnish-Soviet relations. It was 39 years ago that the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Aid was signed between our peoples, and since then has served as a firm foundation for the development of relations between Finland and the Soviet Union. On my own behalf and on behalf of the entire Finnish people I cordially greet you and through you the entire Soviet people on this notable date in our relations.

"On the day of the anniversary of our treaty I should like to stress its abiding importance as the basis for mutual trust and friendly good-neighbor relations between our countries. The treaty thus ensures security on our common border and for its part promotes stability in Northern Europe and beyond.

"On the firm basis of the trust created by the treaty opportunities have been opened up for the development of multifaceted relations in the field of the economy and education, which serves well the interests of the peoples of both our countries. A key role in this activity is also played by personal contacts -- both at a high political level and at the level of ordinary citizens.

"The peoples of Finland and the Soviet Union experience feelings of genuine friendship for each other. Our task is to continue to safeguard the positive heritage of relations between Finland and the USSR built on the basis of the 1948 treaty and constantly to enrich this heritage to the benefit of our mutual interests. We in Finland will act purposefully in this direction.

TASS Views Treaty

LD032003 Moscow TASS in English 1410 GMT 3 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 3 TASS -- TASS commentator Andrey Alekseyev reports:

Peoples of the Soviet Union and Finland are observing the 39th anniversary of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance signed on April 6, 1948, in Moscow on the initiative of the Soviet Government. It holds a special place in the system of international legal acts of the post-war period.

The 1948 treaty is unique by its content and by its form. The first two out of the eight articles of the treaty deal with military-political matters. They are not directed against third countries. Their aim is to ensure the security of Finland and the north-western borders of the USSR and to repulse a possible aggression. Security in the north of Europe and in the European Continent is unthinkable today without the treaty.

When suggesting that the USSR and Finland sign the treaty, the USSR acted in line with the Leninist principles of foreign policy recorded in the decree of the young Soviet state on the recognition of Finland's independence of December 31, 1917.

The existence across its north-western border of an independent neighbour country that pursues an independent foreign policy and comes up with peace initiatives in the international arena meets the interests of the Soviet Union. The pursuing of this policy which is called the Paasikivi-Kekkonen line became possible for Finland thanks to the 1948 treaty when the USSR and Finland reached a high level of confidence and mutual understanding in their relations.

A political dialogue between Soviet and Finnish leaders has proved to be an important component part in a well developed system of Soviet-Finnish cooperation. The meeting in September 1985 of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Mauno Koivisto, president of Finland, is fresh in people's memory. They set the guidelines for the cooperation between the two countries in various spheres.

Not only political relations, but also the relations between the two countries in the sphere of economy, culture, sports and tourism are successfully developing on a solid foundation of the treaty. Today the two countries are actively working out new forms and methods of cooperation. One of the promising spheres is the creation of joint Soviet-Finnish enterprises in the USSR.

The current year which is an anniversary year for the USSR and Finland began with a memorable event -- the official visit of Nikolay Ryzhkov, head of the Soviet Government, to the neighbouring country. Undoubtedly, the exchange on the summit level will be successfully continued in the future. The 1948 treaty that has passed the test of time and that will be in effect till the beginning of the next millenium will serve as a basis of fruitful cooperation between the USSR and Finland.

SYRIA'S AL-ASAD TO ARRIVE IN MOSCOW 23 APR

LD220942 Kuwait KUNA in English 0822 GMT Apr 87

[Text] Moscow, April 22 (KUNA) -- Syrian diplomatic sources here said today President Hafiz al-Asad will arrive here tomorrow on an official visit to the Soviet Union.

A Syrian advance team flew in here yesterday to prepare for the visit of the Syrian president.

COUNCIL'S NATIONAL DAY MESSAGE TO SYRIA'S AL-KASM

PM171205 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Apr 87 Second Edition p 3

[National Day greetings message from USSR Council of Ministers to 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, chairman of the Syrian Council of Ministers]

[Text] To Comrade 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, chairman of the Syrian Arab Republic Council of Ministers:

Please accept our heartfelt congratulations, Comrade 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, on the occasion of Syria's national holiday -- the 41st anniversary of the evacuation of foreign troops.

On this notable day there are every grounds for expressing satisfaction with the development of the relations of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the Syrian Arab Republic in various fields and with their dynamism and magnitude.

The Soviet Union proceeds from the premise that the further consolidation of mutually advantageous Soviet-Syrian relations and the expansion of effective collaboration in international affairs accords with the long-term interests of our countries' peoples.

We wish you and the government and people of friendly Syria prosperity and peace.

The USSR Council of Ministers.

PRAVDA Notes National Day

PM211055 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Apr 87 Second Edition p 5

[V. Peresada article: "Syria's Staunchness"]

[Text] Syria ranks only sixth among the Arab countries in terms of the size of its population and 10th in terms of the scale of its territory. Its political prestige is among the most substantial in the Arab world. The republic has won it primarily by its staunch adherence to the principles of the national liberation and anti-imperialist struggle.

The traditions of this struggle are inextricably linked with the most important gain of the Syrian people -- the country's complete independence, which they achieved 41 years ago. What attempts did the colonialists not make to keep Syria under their control? [paragraph continues]

The Syrians' desire for freedom, augmented by the solidarity of the international progressive forces, primarily the Soviet Union, led to victory. The day of the evacuation of the foreign troops -- 17 April 1946 -- became the national holiday in the country.

Since then Syria has traveled a long path. Its determining milestone was the choice of the progressive course is that being implemented under the leadership of the ruling Ba'th Party. The creation of the state sector and the implementation of agrarian reform have made it possible to strengthen the economy and to carry out social transformations in the working people's interests. Cooperation between the ruling party and other parties within the framework of the Progressive National Front is a characteristic features of internal political life.

This course is being steered under hard conditions. A particularly serious threat comes from outside. The intrigues of Israel, which continues to occupy the Syrian Golan Heights, are not ceasing, and recently the Republic has been subjected increasingly frequently to militarist blackmail from the West headed by the United States. Syria is resolutely opposing this pressure, continuing to act from anti-imperialist positions for the disruption of attempts to impose in the Near East the U.S.-Israeli settlement plans which encroach on the Arab peoples' interests.

As in the period of the anticolonial struggle, Syria relies on the Soviet Union's support. Our countries' varied cooperation is becoming increasingly broad.

DEFENSE OFFICIALS MEET ALGERIA'S CHELLOUFI

LD220348 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 21 Apr 87

[Text] General Mustapha Chelloufi, secretary general of the Ministry of National Defense, had talks in Moscow today with Marshal Sergey Sokolov, member of CPSU Central Committee Politburo and Soviet minister of defense. Gen Mustapha Chelloufi, who is paying a visit to the USSR at the invitation of the Soviet Defense Ministry, had talks with Marshal Sergey Akhromeyev, first deputy minister of defense and chief of the General Staff of the Soviet Armed Forces, who today gave a luncheon in honor of Gen Chelloufi and the military delegation accompanying him. The delegation includes General Mohamed Ataylia, member of the Central Committee and commander of the 1st Military Region.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA NOTES YEFIMOV RETURN FROM ALGERIA

PM211251 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Apr 87 Second Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Visit Over"]

[Text] Marshal of Aviation A.N. Yefimov, commander in chief of the Air Force and USSR deputy defense minister, who had been in Algeria on an official visit at the invitation of the commander of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria's Air Force, returned to Moscow 16 April.

VORONTSOV CONFERS WITH IRANIAN AMBASSADOR

LD181521 Tehran IRNA in English 1510 GMT 18 Apr 87

[Text] Tehran, April 18, IRNA -- Iranian Ambassador to Moscow, Naser Hayrani-Nobari conferred with Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov in the Soviet capital Friday.

III. 22 Apr 87

H 3

USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

At the meeting Nobari conveyed a message from Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali-Akbar Velayati, and discussed important development of the Persian Gulf region with Vorontsov.

MOROCCO'S KING HASSAN ON SOVIET MIDEAST ROLE

PM150737 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "King of Morocco on Mideast Settlement"]

[Text] Rabat, 13 Apr — The Soviet Unions' important role in the peace process in the Middle East and particularly in an international peace conference on the region's problems was emphasized by King Hassan II of Morocco in an interview with the French radio station Europe-1.

It would be illogical and unrealistic to exclude the Soviet Union, which lies only a few hundred kilometers away from the Arab capitals, from participation in this process, the Moroccan king declared. Expressing hopes that a conference on a Mideast settlement could soon be convened, Hassan II pointed out that it is impossible to maintain peace in the region without the USSR's involvement.

MAURITANIAN FISHERIES MINISTER ARRIVES FOR SESSION

LD201658 Moscow TASS in English 1405 GMT 20 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 20 TASS -- Prospects for the development of Soviet-Mauritanian cooperation are being discussed with the Soviet side by Sidi Mohamed Ould Cheikh Abdallahi, Mauritanian minister of fisheries and marine economy, who arrived in the USSR today to attend a session of the Bilateral Sectoral commission. The commission was established in line with the inter-government agreement of January 31, 1981.

In the fishing industry the USSR and Mauritania have accumulated considerable experience of cooperation embracing research of the marine fauna, the transfer of technology of fishing and fish processing and training of personnel for the industry. The sides established the joint stock Societe Mauritano-Sovietique de Peche which charters Soviet ships for commercial fishing in areas adjacent to the Mauritanian coast.

OFFICIAL RELIGIOUS DELEGATION VISITS YAR

PM210945 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report under general heading: "Official Reports"]

[Text] A delegation of Soviet religious figures headed by K.M. Kharchev, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Council for Religious Affairs, arrived in Sanaa 15 April for a visit at the invitation of 'Ali ibn 'Ali al-Saman, Yemen Arab Republic [YAR] minister of Awqaf and guidance. In a statement to the local SABA news agency, the head of the Soviet delegation said that during the visit there would be a discussion of questions of strengthening ties between the Muslims of the Soviet Union and YAR and of ways of activating efforts to achieve peace in the Near East.

GRECHKOV ON U.S. ATTEMPTS TO 'UNDERMINE' LIBYA

LD172132 Moscow International Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Apr 87

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program, presented by Nikolay Grechkov]

A year ago, on the night of 14-15 April, U.S. warplanes took off from airfields in Britain and from U.S. aircraft carriers in the Mediterranean and launched barbaric raids on the populated areas of Tripoli and Benghazi. The result of this international act of piracy is well known: dozens killed and hundred wounded — elderly, women, and children.

This criminal act was preceded by a feverish campaign directed against Libya, indicating [words indistinct] of the U.S. propaganda machine and the information media in the Western countries. The purpose of this clamor was to convince the world public that the Libyan Jamahiriyah was involved in international terrorism. But neither the United States itself nor its closest allies managed to provide any proof or evidence of this.

[Words indistinct] the Libyan leadership's official statements about the existence of any connection whatsoever between them and terrorism. The U.S. administration did not wish to listen to these statements, because it has chosen combating international terrorism as a pretext for punishing Libya for its determination to continue with its independent policy in the international field and in [words indistinct].

Washington wanted to punish Libya, but what has actually happened was that it punished itself. Because by its barbaric action against this sovereign Arab country, it has exposed itself before the world showing its true face as an aggressor country that violates all norms of international law. The U.S. raid on Libya met with general indignation and disgust, and at the same time sparked a wave of solidarity with the Libyan people, who were attacked.

The USSR was among the first to support Libya. Only a few hours after the raid, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev sent a message to Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Quadhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, expressing readiness to offer Libya tangible assistance in its confrontation with hostile intrigues.

A year has already passed; and few days ago, the first deputy of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, Vorontsov, visited Libya as a special envoy of the CPSU Central Committee and affirmed in his talks with Libyan leader the USSR's solidarity with the Libyan people's struggle for bolstering their Nation's independence [words indistinct] on the road to progress.

It must be noted, however, the U.S. Administration has not abandoned its attempts to undermine the progressive regime in Libya and does not wish to abandon its past anti-Libyan line. This is clear from the latest statement by the U.S. State Department spokesman, who categorically denied all possible normalization of relations with Tripoli. She justified this stance by resorting anew to the pretext of Libya's alleged involvement in international terrorism.

FURTHER DETAILS ON RYZHKOV-MUSOKOTWANE TALKS

PM141001 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Apr 87 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Talks in the Kremlin"]

[Text] N.I. Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, met in the Kremlin 11 April with K. Musokotwane, member of the Central Committee of the United National Independence Party (UNIP) of Zambia and prime minister of the republic, who is in Moscow on a brief working visit. They had a detailed discussion on a wide range of questions of interest to the Soviet Union and Zambia.

At the Zambian guest's request N.I. Ryzhkov spoke about the tasks of a political and socioeconomic nature the Soviet people are resolving to accelerate the country's socioeconomic development and implement the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum. It was emphasized that the purpose of the current restructuring is to renew all aspects of life in the Soviet socialist society and impart new dynamism to it.

K. Musokotwane showed lively interest in the processes taking place in the USSR and pointed out that the acceleration of the Soviet Union's socioeconomic development makes a great impression, particularly on states which have embarked on a path of progressive development.

Speaking about the Soviet Union's foreign policy aimed at averting the nuclear threat and building a nuclear-free and nonviolent world through an all-embracing international security system, N.I. Ryzhkov voiced satisfaction with the fact that the Soviet peace initiatives meet with the understanding and support of the Zambian Government. The Zambian prime minister emphasized that the public in Zambia, as well as in other countries, sees the Soviet Union's foreign policy activity, the proposals of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and the new political thinking as an opportunity to emerge from the acute international situation which the modern world is experiencing.

During the talks the coincidence of the sides' views on the situation which has taken shape in the south of the African continent was confirmed, and solidarity was voiced with the struggle of the peoples of Namibia and South Africa for their freedom and independence under the leadership of the South-West African People's Organization and the African National Congress.

N.I. Ryzhkov pointed out that the Soviet Union estimates at its true worth the Republic of Zambia's anticolonial, antiracist policy of resolving as quickly as possible the dangerously explosive situation in southern Africa and strengthening the unity of the region's independent countries opposed to the [RSA] Republic of South Africa racists' aggressive intrigues. He emphasized that the Soviet Union has given and will continue to give support and assistance to the "frontline" African countries in defending their independence and territorial integrity.

On behalf of the UNIP Party and the entire Zambian people K. Musokotwane expressed gratitude to the CPSU and the Soviet Government for their principled position expressed in immutable support for the national liberation movements of southern Africa.

The talks also devoted great attention to questions of Soviet-Zambian relations.
[paragraph continues]

III. 22 Apr 87

J 2

USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN

The sides examined attentively the prospects for their further development and deepening and for enhancing the effectiveness of ties between the USSR and Zambia in various areas.

The talks were held in a friendly atmosphere and a spirit of mutual understanding.

On the same day K. Musokotwane visited the V.I. Lenin Mausoleum, where he laid flowers.

Departs for Pyongyang

PM150911 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading: "Official Reports"]

[Text] Zambian Prime Minister K. Musokotwane left Moscow for Pyongyang 12 April. He had been on a brief working visit to our country.

At the airport he was seen off by L.A. Voronin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, A.L. Adamishin, USSR deputy foreign minister, and other officials.

Zambian Ambassador to the USSR F.M. Liboma and DPRK Ambassador to the USSR Kwon Hui-kyong were among the send-off party.

MOZAMBIQUE LEADERSHIP'S ANNIVERSARY GREETING

PM011435 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Mar 87 First Edition p 1

[Undated, untitled message from Mozambican leadership bodies to Soviet counterparts on 10th anniversary of friendship treaty]

[Text] To the CPSU Central Committee
The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium
The USSR Council of Ministers

Today our countries mark the 10th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between the People's Republic of Mozambique and the USSR in Maputo, which solemnly consolidates our relations and contributes to the activation of fraternal cooperation between our parties, peoples, and states in all spheres. Our relations have developed fruitfully over these 10 years. Facts prove that the treaty has served the genuine interests of our peoples and the cause of peace effectively and to the mutual advantage of both sides.

The last decade has seen the affirmation of the practice of political and diplomatic consultations between our states on the most important global and regional problems of our time.

As a result of this, mutual understanding has deepened and the knowledge of each other's domestic problems and foreign policy has expanded. A significant degree of coincidence has been achieved in the positions held by our sovereign countries to the benefit of our peoples' prosperity and of international peace and security.

In line with the treaty, relations have developed and strengthened in the economic, social, cultural, scientific, and military spheres, serving the interests of our peoples and the consolidation of Mozambique's national independence and assisting the Mozambican people's struggle against backwardness and for the building of a socialist society.

The Soviet Union's stance and actions in defense of the cause of peace and progress in southern Africa and against colonialism and apartheid, just like the Soviet initiatives aimed at eliminating the threat of nuclear conflict and establishing lasting peace throughout the world, enjoy the Mozambican people's support.

We are convinced that our relations will continue to develop in all spheres.

The Mozambique Liberation Front [Frelimo] Party Central Committee, the Permanent Commission of the People's Assembly, the People's Republic of Mozambique Council of Ministers, and the entire Mozambican people send fraternal greetings and wishes for further successes to the Soviet people, the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers.

The struggle continues!

The Frelimo Party Central Committee

The Permanent Commission of the People's Assembly

The People's Republic of Mozambique Council of Ministers

Foreign Ministry Messages

PM060913 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Reliable Foundation for the Development of Relations"]

[Text] The USSR and Mozambican Foreign Ministries have exchanged greetings telegrams on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between the USSR and the People's Republic of Mozambique.

The telegram from the USSR Foreign Ministry says the Soviet-Mozambican treaty serves as a reliable foundation for the assertive development of multifaceted relations between our countries and their collaboration in efforts to ensure peace and international security, the struggle against the forces of imperialism, racism, and neocolonialism, and support for the just desire of the peoples for freedom, independence, and social progress. Confidence is expressed that Soviet-Mozambican ties will continue to strengthen and develop for the benefit of the peoples of both countries.

The telegram from Mozambican Foreign Minister P. Mocumbi notes that the signing of the treaty marked the beginning of a new stage in the strengthening of the relations of fraternal friendship and militant solidarity that united the peoples of our countries from the moment armed struggle for national liberation began in Mozambique. It is noted that the treaty inspires and stimulates fruitful cooperation between our countries in various spheres. Its practical implementation strengthens the cause of peace, national independence, and socialism, and Mozambique's support for the Soviet Union's peace-loving policy is emphasized.

KOMSOMOL, MOZAMBIQUE GROUP SIGN PROTOCOL

MB200709 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0400 GMT 20 Apr 87

[Text] In Moscow yesterday, the Mozambican Youth Organization [OJM] and the Communist youth league Komsomol signed a friendship and cooperation protocol for the 1987-90 period. The agreement was signed by OJM Secretary General Zacarias Kupela and the first secretary of the Central Committee of Komsomol after hour-long talks between the delegations from the two youth organizations. Zacarias Kupela has been in Moscow at the head of an OJM delegation which attended the second [as heard] congress of Komsomol held 15 to 18 April.

IZVESTIYA INTERVIEWS ANC OFFICIAL ON RSA FUTURE

PM101221 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 5

[Interview with Joe Modise, member of the African National Congress [ANC] of South Africa National Executive Committee, by B. Pilyatskin: "This Regime Is Doomed" -- date and place not given]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Pilyatskin] Comrade Modise, what can you say about the situation in the RSA?

[Modise] It can be summed up in a few words: "The country is in a state of siege." Analyzing the situation in more detail, I would say that the state of ferment and internal division as a result of massive antiracist demonstrations has become irreversible. The authorities respond to these demonstrations by intensifying the repression, they have twice introduced a state of emergency, but they are unable to deal with the situation. The regime is tired, and it is doomed. This is also apparent in the sharp deterioration in the country's economy. There is growing inflation, the rand has fallen against the dollar, and unemployment is increasing, and not only among black people. The white man on the outside is a new phenomenon in the RSA. Previously, this simply could not happen.

With vast resources being spent in the suppression of the oppressed majority, the continuing occupation of Namibia, and undeclared wars against Angola and Mozambique, the government is no longer able to guarantee the white minority the high living standards to which it has become accustomed under the apartheid system. The instability and fear for their capital is forcing Western businessmen to cease their activity in the RSA. It is well known that a number of companies and firms have already made this decision.

This is the background against which there is growing demarcation even within the ruling nationalist party itself. The people in its ranks who have not completely lost their sense of reality are warning President Botha that, while he still has the opportunity, he must reach a compromise with the African National Congress (ANC) so that not every privilege is lost. Look at the Zimbabwe example, they say. As a result of talks between Ian Smith and the partisans, they managed to draw up a constitution retaining 20 parliamentary seats for European voters for a definite period. If the talks had been held earlier, the number of seats retained would possibly have been greater. They are now even warning Botha from such a citadel of "Afrikanerdom" as Stellenbosch University, as if it were not too late.

However, the RSA ruling circles are not heeding the voice of reason but are relying solely on the police and military force. Under these conditions, we have no choice other than to continue the struggle.

[Pilyatskin] What are the features of this struggle in RSA conditions?

[Modise] Its primary feature is the combination of different forms of struggle -- armed partisan struggle and political struggle. In a country like the RSA, with a developed infrastructure and an efficient communications system, not to mention the most powerful army on the African continent, "Umkhonto we sizwe" combat operations cannot in themselves guarantee superiority over the enemy. But they quite successfully fulfill their task in the context of our general strategy at the present stage -- to make the apartheid state ungovernable.

I will quote some figures: more than 400 different targets came under attack last year. They included police stations, electric substations, administrative buildings, and so forth. This is treble the number of operations carried out the year before. This means that our armed struggle is developing and our forces are becoming considerably more active. I also stress this because the Western mass information media -- prompted by racist propaganda -- have begun saying that the movement against apartheid is on the wane and that the measures taken by Botha to "bring order" have produced results.

These claims have nothing in common with the truth. For a start, under the strict censorship conditions imposed by the authorities, journalists -- Western and local -- are cut off from events and are barred access to areas where there is unrest. Consequently, the only source of information on events is a bureau specially set up by the government, which it would be more correct to call a misinformation bureau. It deliberately plays down the number of "Umkhonto we sizwe" operations or else simply conceals the facts.

When planning our operations we take many features into consideration, including the surprise element. For example, racist propaganda boasts that on 21 March, when there was a World Day of Struggle Against Racial Discrimination on the anniversary of the Sharpeville shooting (1960), there were no particular incidents in the RSA. But this is because we knew that the army and the police were on alert and expecting an attack. Our reaction was planned accordingly. Creating a situation of constant tension for the enemy, who expects to come under attack at any moment, is an element of our tactics.

[Pilyatskin] What new tactics have you adopted recently?

[Modise] We have extended the sphere of our combat operations to rural areas. Farmers, who are the most conservative social group in the Afrikaner community, can no longer feel they are safe anywhere in the country. They are surrounding their homes with barbed wire charged with a high voltage electric current, as was the practice in Rhodesia during the partisan war, and forming armed "shooting parties." Using an efficient information system, police stations are rapidly supplied with information on every stranger observed who appears to be acting suspiciously.

Farms located close to one another are forming "frontline defense centers" covering all the provinces. Regular military training sessions and rallies under the leadership of cadre officers should be added to all this. [paragraph continues]

I am telling you this so that IZVESTIYA readers will understand the complex conditions in which "Umkhonto we sizwe" members have to operate. But the struggle goes on and will intensify.

On a political level, we have succeeded in ensuring that local municipal councils are paralyzed in the African ghettos. Collaborationists in the racists' pay have fled from the people's anger. Organs of people's power are being set up in the black townships. At their instigation residents are refusing to pay their rents and taxes, and the state treasury is incurring a substantial loss as a result. Young people are forming fighting groups and playing an active part in antigovernment demonstrations.

[Pilyatskin] What is your main task now?

[Modise] To broaden the social base of protest. We in the ANC have admitted in self-criticism that our influence on the white working class is not strong enough: Under apartheid and because of apartheid it has done well out of the regime for a long time and is loyal to it. The formation of a black workers trade union federation, the Congress of South African Trade Unions, is an important event on the way to uniting the whole RSA proletariat regardless of race.

BRIEFS

DRILLING AGREEMENT WITH GUINEA-BISSAU -- Bissau, 14 Apr -- A contract for Soviet specialists to continue work on drilling wells for water until 1989 has been signed in the capital of Guinea-Bissau. It has been concluded within the framework of a protocol to the agreement on economic and technical cooperation between the USSR and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau. Within 2 years it is planned to commission about 50 new wells, which will supply many arid regions of the country with water. In practically all of the districts of Guinea-Bissau the inhabitants make use of water extracted by the labor of Soviet hydrogeologists. The wells drilled by them supply water not only to the capital of the republic and other cities but also hundreds of villages. [Text]
[Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1443 GMT 14 Apr 87 LD]

PM131343 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Text] A USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by G.M. Voskanyan, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, paid an official visit to Peru from 29 March to 3 April at the invitation of the republic's National Congress.

The delegation was received by Prime Minister L. Alva Castro; Foreign Minister A. Wagner Tizon; chairmen and members of various parliamentary commissions; Lima Mayor J. Del Castillo Galvez; and some of the country's statesmen, politicians, and public figures.

The Soviet parliamentarians laid a wreath at the monument to national heroes, saw the historic sights of the capital, and visited some of the country's social and cultural institutions. During the meetings the Soviet parliamentarians and Peruvian representatives exchanged views on questions of further strengthening the relations of great friendship and cooperation between the Soviet and Peruvian peoples.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium delegation briefed the Peruvian side on the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress aimed at accelerating Soviet society's socioeconomic development and making fuller use of the potential inherent in the socialist system.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium delegation talked in detail about the desire of the Soviet people and government to live and work under conditions of lasting nuclear-free and nonviolent peace and complete respect for human dignity. In this context the USSR's commitment to the cause of peace and its support for international efforts in that direction were stressed.

The Peruvian parliamentarians and officials expounded to the Soviet delegation the Peruvian Government's foreign policy, formulated by the president on 28 July 1985 and aimed at protecting world peace and reducing military spending in Latin America, within the framework of which Peru has already taken specific bilateral and regional steps.

Examination of current international problems revealed the coincidence or proximity of the two countries' positions on questions of the struggle for peace, the protection of human rights, and the strengthening of friendship among the peoples.

The Soviet and Peruvian parliamentarians expressed their firm conviction that the realities of the nuclear space age require constant analysis and action to ensure a peaceful solution to existing international problems on the basis of the rejection of the use of force and respect for the principles of international law.

The Soviet and Peruvian sides made a positive assessment of the initiatives to end the arms race put forward in the 15 January 1986 statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and of the aforesaid proposals contained in President A. Garcia Perez' statement of 28 July 1985.

The Soviet and Peruvian parliamentarians advocated the immediate ending of all nuclear tests for military purposes and the speediest conclusion of an agreement on their total and universal prohibition.

The two countries' parliamentarians were unanimous in their assessment of the efforts being made to achieve peace in Central America, which must be based on the principles of noninterference and the free self-determination of peoples.

The Soviet delegation made a high assessment of Peru's efforts in trying to achieve a Central American settlement, of its role in creating and participating in the Contadora Support group, and of the solidarity it shows with the struggle against intervention in Nicaragua.

The Soviet parliamentarians stated their support for the Latin American states' desire to prevent the use of nuclear energy for military purposes in accordance with the Tlatelolco Treaty.

The sides stated their support for the developing countries' just demands that a new international economic order guaranteeing equally and economic security for all states, including the resolution of the foreign debt problem, be established and advocated the convening of a world congress on economic security problems.

The representatives of the two countries' supreme organs of state power stated with satisfaction that friendly Soviet-Peruvian relations, which are based on strict observance of the principles of equality, mutual respect, noninterference in each other's internal affairs, and mutual advantage, are continuing to develop and become more and more stable and multifaceted. They stated their intention to continue to promote in every possible way the development of political dialogue and the stepping up of parliamentary contacts. Confidence was expressed that the strengthening of mutual understanding, friendship, and cooperation between the USSR and Peru will promote the strengthening of world peace.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium delegation expressed sincere gratitude for the hospitality it received from the National Congress and the Peruvian Government and people, and it invited the country's National Congress to send a delegation to the Soviet Union on an official return visit.

PRAVDA VIEWS PAPAL VISIT TO CHILE, RAMIFICATIONS

PM131143 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Apr 87 Second Edition p 5

[Vadim Listov "Commentator's Column": "Whatever You Do"]

[Text] The world's attention has again been drawn recently to the events in Chile. The streets of Chilean cities are again seething with mass demonstrations and police nightsticks are again crashing down on the heads of patriots demanding an end to the fascist dictatorship and the restoration of democracy in the country.

The reasons for the riots are the same as before: the deep gulf separating the Pinochet regime and the people's masses and the exceedingly acute social contradictions in Chilean society. The riots were triggered this time by, on the one hand, the arrest of Socialist Party leader Clodomiro Almedia, who had returned to the country (despite the Pinochet junta ban), and, on the other hand, by the arrival (at the Pinochet junta's invitation) of Pope John Paul II. In both cases the dictatorship took "appropriate" measures: First, it sent C. Almedia to a remote region; second, it tried to ensure that the pope's visit went off without a hitch, according to the prearranged scenario. In both case Pinochet and his patrons miscalculated.

C. Almedia's arrest and the reprisals being prepared against him have roused to action not only the broadest strata of the Chilean population but those circles abroad whom Pinochet was clearly counting on neutralizing with the pope's visit. Storms of outrage swept Peru, Ecuador, and Mexico, which are considered to be virtually the most "Catholic" countries in Latin America. Ecuador's National Congress, for instance, adopted a special resolution defending C. Almedia and supporting his right to live in his homeland. The Mexican Government, protesting C. Almedia's arrest and the continuing human rights violations in Chile, demanded that the Pinochet regime guarantee C. Almedia's safety and the implementation of his political and civic rights. In other words, the Pinochet regime's political isolation, first and foremost in Latin America, has strengthened still further rather than diminishing.

As for the papal visit, it has not brought the regime the domestic political dividends it was seeking. In response to the pope's calls for "social reconciliation" and his cautious, "tactful," and tactical criticism of the junta's ringleader, the regime heard millions of Chileans -- believers, atheists, Christian Democrats, Socialists, nonparty people, and so forth -- voicing the demand: "Remove Pinochet first! Down with the fascist dictatorship!" Judging by reports, the papal visit has not changed the position of those representatives of the Chilean Church who stand together with the people for the elimination of the fascist regime and the restoration of freedom and democracy to Chile.

The obvious conclusion is that if the pope has had to make such a long trip, postponing even the most urgent matters, it means that the Pinochet regime, which has been backed by Washington for 15 years, is really on its last legs.

In such circumstances people say "Whatever you do, you're a loser." More and more daggers are being thrust into the body of Pinochet tyranny, and no reprisals against the people can save it.

YELTSIN ASSESSES PROGRESS OF RESTRUCTURING

PM201515 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 14 Apr 87 pp 1, 2

[Interview with B.N. Yeltsin, first secretary of Moscow CPSU Gorkom, by unidentified reporter: "Increasing the Momentum of Restructuring"; date and place not given -- first four paragraphs are MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA introduction]

[Text] When they voted to publish the materials of the recent party gorkom plenum in full in our newspaper, its participants perhaps did not anticipate what a great flood of readers' letters these items would evoke. People reacted with approval to the new step in expanding openness. The editorial board is receiving responses that continue the frank discussion begun by the members of the gorkom. Especially important is the fact that not only Communists but also many nonparty Muscovites have actively joined in discussing the tasks set by the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum. A citywide meeting on key problems of our growth and a collective quest for reserves for acceleration can be said to be taking place.

The letters show that there are fewer and fewer indifferent, apathetic people. The restructuring that has begun concerns everyone and is awakening a wish to analyze past phenomena more profoundly, comprehend the present, and look into the future. A wish to consider what place each person should take in the formation and to determine the personal fronts of struggle for democratization, acceleration, and a new quality of life in the beloved city. Many people believe that it is time for the party gorkom to report to Muscovites on what has been done and left undone.

Readers are making specific proposals, raising questions, sharing their doubts, and expressing differing assessments of the processes of renewal in Moscow.

The editorial board asked B.N. Yeltsin, first secretary of Moscow party gorkom, to comment on the editorial mail and to answer some of the most typical letters from Muscovites.

[Reporter] Boris Nikolayevich, Muscovites' letters about restructuring show that the more profound and specific the transformations become, the more clearly the divide between active champions of the new ways and those who are accustomed to follow the line of least resistance emerges. What is your assessment of the dynamics of restructuring today?

[Yeltsin] At the present stage of restructuring it becomes fundamentally important to make a correct assessment of its pace. The point made by readers in their letters is one that I have often heard among the party aktiv, in labor collectives, and in conversations with Muscovites. There are diametrically opposed viewpoints, ranging from the radical -- "eliminate," "abolish," "introduce tomorrow" -- to the cautiously skeptical: "Aren't we going too fast?" and "More haste, less speed." I think this difference in views is natural and, most importantly, is more valuable than being an apathetic onlooker.

The pioneering political and economic decisions that have already been adopted or are in preparation, decisions that have no parallel in our history, have naturally aroused great expectations, burning impatience, and a desire to eliminate elements of stagnation and social corrosion more rapidly. The desire to climb right now a steep qualitative step in society's development and immediately obtain the fruits of renewal is understandable in human terms. [paragraph continued]

The unprecedented nature and the scale of the transformations that have been begun require above all not emotions and the indiscriminate repudiation of past experience but a sober analysis of the reasons for errors and consistent, persistent creation of the new. Increasingly broad masses of the working people are increasingly becoming the policymakers. It is certainly not easy for everyone to choose his place and fall in with the pace of restructuring. It is impossible to find our bearings unless we can make a clear distinction between pernicious sluggishness and impermissible haste and bustle. We may also lose our political flair. The person who overdramatizes temporary setbacks and panics at the absence of instant benefits is just as politically immature as the person who underestimates the shortage of time and postpones matters, waiting for the "necessary conditions" to be created (by whom?).

Errors must be avoided. For there to be fewer errors at least, as V.I. Lenin taught, it is necessary "to think about verifying the advances we announce every hour, make every minute, and then find every second to be short-lived, flimsy, and incomprehensible," Lenin's demand for a high level of political culture is especially topical today.

Learning to work under the new conditions means not merely abandoning stereotypes and cliches but making well thought-out, considered decisions and carefully calculating the likely consequences. We still often lose sight of this. For instance, many enterprises switch to two-shift working by mechanically dividing the collective down the middle, not for the sake of rational efficiency, but, again, merely for the sake of fashion. The unskillful actions and haste, which are cosmetic even cause conflicts. The lack of thought leads to blunders. It must not be forgotten that in conditions of openness people view a decision, once made, even if it is experimental, as a pledge.

So after repeated checking and making a decision, we must act resolutely, without hesitation. It is precisely the actions of Communists and nonparty people and all champions of restructuring that will determine its pace. Clearly it is the next 2-3 years -- the initial stage of the trajectory of acceleration -- that will require maximum effort and total exertion.

[Reporter] Restructuring and cadres -- these terms always go hand in hand. Without dedicated, strong personnel it is difficult to expect changes. What amendments has the party gorkom made to work with cadres since the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum. What new elements have emerged here?

[Yeltsin] I would certainly add unfeigned modesty, an uncompromising conscience, and profound competence to the qualities you mentioned. Any lack of modesty, scrupulousness, and openness to the people he is serving deprives even the strongest official of trust and thereby discredits the political line that each leader embodies in working people's eyes. Without competence, without economic professionalism on the part of economic and not only economic cadres, there will be no real work. For instance, the financial incompetence of a number of leaders has brought some labor collectives of Moscow plants that have switched to self-financing to the verge of crisis. Although central organs themselves had not studied every aspect of this machinery.

The paramount task is to evaluate in a principled and open fashion the ability of each person, of cadres at all levels, to head restructuring and become its overseers. This work must be largely completed this year.

The Gorkom Bureau is prompting city and rayon cadres to get rid of chronic failings like the mania for fine-sounding reports, deafness to social questions, lack of self-reliance, and complacency.

We believe the best remedy, especially in the particular conditions of the capital, where the atmosphere of being a "model city" has still not been removed, is an extremely critical attitude. Of course, you cannot issue a simple prescription for contemporary criticism. It is clear that this "vitamin of restructuring" should not be taken in deafening, paralyzing doses. It is clear that criticism from below is more useful than "chivying" from above. It is clear that criticism that is constructive and purposeful and helps reveal and overcome slippage in the transformations and any gap between word and deed is more effective. That gap is the most dangerous thing. No leader at any level should make hasty promises.

The elimination of the distortions and miscalculations in the former cadre policy meets with the support of the majority of the city party aktiv. This is confirmed by a sociological survey carried out at the gorkom's request by the CPSU Central Committee Academy of Social Sciences. About 40 percent of respondents believe considerable cadre changes still need to be carried out. The poor state of development of an efficient system for promoting, assessing, and training officials and the lack of a planned, systematic approach, especially in the selection and promotion of the reserve, remain a weak point. We are now working hard to solve this problem.

We are gradually accumulating experience of electing leading cadres. The leaders of the First Model Printing Plant, the No 2 Printer's Ink Plant, the No 2 Housing Construction Combine Ferroconcrete Structures Plant, the "Mossantekhprom" Association, the No 105 Construction Administration of the No 6 "Mosfundamentstroy" Trust, the Mosstroytrans No 1 Motor Vehicle Base, and School No 662 and the secretary of Kalininskiy party raykom have received mandates of trust from their collectives. There are also other examples.

What has the initial experience of elections shown? First, it has removed a mass of doubts and deprived skeptics and opponents (such people do exist) of the new approach in work with cadres of many of their arguments. The open discussion of two equally valuable candidacies and the unambiguous voting have increased not only the interest and activeness of everyone taking part in the elections but also their personal responsibility for the decisions that are made. It was important to test the actual machinery for these elections to determine its weak links -- and there were weak links. The speeches of many people about the proposed candidates were based largely on information from questionnaires, and the candidates' personal qualities and the strong and weak points in their work were poorly revealed. On the whole we think the first experiment has succeeded.

We are continuing the line of increasing cadres' personal responsibility. At the next plenum it is planned to hear reports from two members of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom Bureau, Gorkom Secretary I.D. Pisarev and Moscow City Trade Union Council Chairman V.P. Shcherbakov, about their personal contribution to implementing the city party conference's decisions.

Why these two bureau members in particular? Because each heads sectors of work that are of special importance in solving problems connected with people. Construction is a most important sector for the city's future development. Social conditions in enterprises and organizations are our common concern, but by decision of the bureau the chairman of the City Trade Union Council has been made responsible for this sphere. This is why we believe reports from Comrades I.D. Pisarev and V.P. Shcherbakov will be most interesting and useful not only for these spheres but also for them personally. They have reserves for improving work. We will collectively try to ensure that they see them more clearly.

[Reporter] You particularly emphasized the danger of any divergence between word and deed. The newspaper often publishes reports that the party gorkom has adopted a resolution on some question or other. We carry material from plenums and leader speeches. The flood of words worries some readers: Aren't we going to drown action in words? Has the party gorkom succeeded in switching from words to deeds?

[Yeltsin] The gap between word and deed has clearly not yet been totally overcome, but we believe the gap has become shorter in terms of life. I could list the things that have now actually been done in the city. Of course, the important point is not what the first secretary, the bureau members, and the party gorkom think but the assessment of all Muscovites. When people see changes in their own shop, in their own street, and in the family budget, the assessment of our efforts will be more accurate.

[Reporter] What are you personally unhappy about with regard to the implementation of what has been planned?

[Yeltsin] The fact that more has not yet been done. The fact that there are still miscalculations in cadre selection. The fact that I haven't totally grasped the specific nature of Moscow. There ought to be more doggedness and persistence.

[Reporter] I would like to particularly highlight the question of collegiality in party work. It is no secret that in some party committees there is a distance between the first secretary and the remaining bureau members that hampers matters. Everything resolves around the first secretary, so to speak, and the others are left in the shadows. Readers wonder: What is the atmosphere in the Gorkom Bureau like? Don't the bureau members pale into insignificance "under Yeltsin?"

[Yeltsin] It's always difficult to answer questions like that. I would say this -- we seek to ensure the system in the bureau is this: first, but among equals. The examples of the past are only too fresh in the mind. When Lenin's lessons were completely forgotten. We top leaders [pervyye rukovoditeli] must remember especially firmly that the habit of a monopoly of thought, criticism, and correctness that brooks no objection will not automatically vanish. I can tell you that in our bureau both the first secretary and the bureau members do not find it easy to overcome the stereotypes. For many years the members of the bureaus of many leading organs were picked on the basis of a false principle: Since this is a collective of people of like mind, they should think and talk like the person chairing the session. Throwbacks to a misconceived correlation between collegiality and one-man management are emerging in some places in raykoms and ministry, department, and enterprise party committees. The chairman does not set the tone but dictates. The people attending the meeting either keep silent or agree. There is no collective thought, comparison of viewpoints, or genuine party comradeship. Yet the root of the term "collegiality" comes from the Latin for "comrade." The damage caused by this "unanimity" and unquestioning agreement with any remarks or decisions by the top man is great, especially for the cause that we serve. It does the leader no favors either. There are plenty of illustrations of that in history. If the chairman cannot create an atmosphere in which people can calmly express a different viewpoint without hassle ensuing, there will be no collegiality in that organ. This must always be remembered.

An atmosphere more in tune with the present day is gradually beginning to emerge in the Gorkom Bureau. A procedure for discussing and deciding questions whereby each bureau member has not only the right but the opportunity to express his opinion has been jointly worked out.

I should add that the comrades' opinions do not always coincide with mine but enable us to compare alternative possibilities and choose the best. I sometimes see how hard a comrade finds it to raise his hand when he wants to object. We will overcome these difficulties together. We also make a practice of holding regular working conferences of bureau members that are not concerned with discussing documents or adopting resolutions but are devoted to formulating a common approach to problems. There is also a more critical attitude in assessing the situation. We also hold closed sessions at which an unvarnished assessment is made of each person's role and part in the common work. Of not only the state of affairs in the sector entrusted to him, but also his personal qualities, character, and personal contribution. The first secretary does not escape criticism. Although at present people find this considerably harder.

[Reporter] You mentioned the difficulty of overcoming the former stereotypes. Indeed, there are still many even honest workers who still have one foot in the past. From time to time the old tune is heard again: People begin to praise and gloss over the situation. This has even been heard from the platform at certain recent raykom plenums. Like many of us, you, Boris Nikolayevich, are also a product of "that era." Is it always possible to get rid of the burden of the past, and, if so, how? What in your view still needs to be done to prevent a restoration of the former style and the habits of party ceremonial?

[Yeltsin] I will begin with what you call party ceremonial. This is a survival of window dressing that has deep roots. In recent years many leaders have outdone even the clergy in ritualism. They know at what point to clap, when to say what, how to greet the authorities, and what decor to put up for an event. This is an invention of wheeler-dealers and toadies who are trying to keep afloat but ordinary people took their cue from them -- they were afraid to stick out of the crowd. Ritualism gradually ate into the pores like coal dust. The worst thing was that it became customary and obligatory.

I will be blunt: We have still not washed it out of all corners of the party's house. The toadies are trying to exploit this for their own purposes. Their tenacity and ability to adapt to new conditions and new leaders are incredible. They are again beginning to sing their chorus of praise and to exaggerate some people's personal services. It's no good if a leader "swallows" this bait. Modesty, scrupulousness, and vigilance are what are needed. They can be inculcated only by taking an exacting, self-critical look at your own actions.

The Gorkom Bureau has comprehensively analyzed the results of the CPSU Raykom plenums. Every instance of preening and a lack of self-criticism received a principled assessment, as did the new-fangled versions of window dressing. We still often get carried away with the superficial aspect of matters, with the outward impression made by an event. The most important thing is forgotten -- the substance, the content, the specific proposals and decisions, the cause itself.

Of course, it is psychologically difficult for a person of mature age to change his ways. There was one kind of atmosphere -- he got used to it and was molded as a leader. All of a sudden there are demands on a totally different scale and a new approach to work. Everything is different. No wonder some people get confused. It is important to mobilize your will in good time, to see the goal, and to advance toward it day by day, without either belittling or exaggerating what has been achieved.

Do I manage to avoid looking back to the past? What can I say to that? Without the past there would be no present. [paragraph continues]

We were also party to the past mistakes. Today the thought sometimes comes to mind: Something has been achieved, there are results. You say to yourself: "Stop! Look at how many unsolved problems still remain!" Regular trips to enterprises and face-to-face meetings with people at their workplaces, in the streets, in stores, and at markets are a remedy for complacency.

Muscovite workers are a blunt lot. They immediately get everything in perspective. They flatly call things by their proper name. Sometimes you feel ashamed and awkward with them because of what you could have done but have not yet done.

We made many omissions in the last few years. For there to be no return to the old ways we must be on the alert. Above all we must be ruthless with ourselves and more exacting with others. We must think more about working people. Most important of all, we must develop democracy in every possible way. Unless our life is democratized arrogance and arbitrariness may again raise their heads and bureaucratism may flourish. This is a breeding ground for indifference and stagnation.

[Reporter] Yes, the democratization of life is a firm guarantee against sliding back into the old rut. Incidentally, many readers also note this. They wonder how the process of democratization is going in the city: Are we not allowing distortions to occur in following the "fashion"?

[Yeltsin] The facts show that the deepening of democracy is not going simply. Yes, there is more freedom [raskovannost] in expressing viewpoints and criticism. People have begun to feel that their opinion and stance carry weight. At any rate, disagreement with the boss is no longer a shocking event. There are more and more illustrations of the way that a working person who feels himself to be the full master in production and in social affairs begins to act vigorously and to enter previously unattainable spheres.

Most importantly, there are fewer silent people! Let people disagree, let them make mistakes, so long as they don't just sit there apathetically but speak, contend, and struggle for the cause -- but for a serious, worthwhile cause. Democracy, self-government, provided it is not feigned, is aimed at creative work, at improving things in the economy and in the social sphere, at improving things on a large scale, and not at petty tinkering in someone's mercenary interests.

When we discussed the results of all the party raykom plenums in the Gorkom Bureau we encountered worrying symptoms of "dummy" democracy. Matters sometimes reach the point of absurdity. At one party raykom plenum the speaker descended from the presidium to a microphone in the hall, because that was "more democratic."

That is an extreme, a caricature, a profanation. You rightly recalled the "fashion" for democracy and the playacting at it. There is nothing more pernicious than going through the motions, because formalism can stifle even restructuring.

Of course, we must not allow this to happen. Today we are constantly being tested for our ability to work under conditions of democracy. The time has come to mobilize people not by hectoring them, not by ordering them about, but through intellect and competence -- to rely in leading people not on blind obedience but on collective reason and trust.

There is much talk of combining democracy and discipline, and with good reason. In unskilled hands democracy is easily turned into demagoguery and anarchy. What great efforts it cost us to throw total license out the door. We breathed a sigh of relief. In some places total license is already trying to get back into our house through the window. The exploitation of democracy for group or personal purposes, whereby one half-truth is replaced by another, is helping it to clamber to its feet.

The development of democratism requires that everyone learn to respect his opponent's opinion and not to perform the will of the authorities, nor even of a simple arithmetical majority, but to jointly seek a solution that combines the interests of the state, the collective, and the individual in the optimum fashion.

[Reporter] There are many letters now about the work of municipal services, unreliable heat supplies, and dirty streets. There are also questions about the trade in vegetables. Readers ask: Does Moscow really need the noisy trade fairs, do they really offer anything? Isn't this again just window dressing?

[Yeltsin] Window dressing is useless. Can that be said of the fairs?

Last year around 140,000 tonnes of fruits, vegetables, fish, confectionery, fruits of the forest, and so forth were sold. This year, ahead of 8 March [celebrated as Women's Day in the USSR] more than 10 million flowers were shipped into Moscow. A painful blow has been struck against speculators. In the future we plan to hold all-union fairs on the eve of nationwide holidays, and to hold such fairs on Saturdays and Sundays through our own efforts, with the help of neighbors from the Moscow region. In the light of experience we will try to diversify the range of goods on offer and more widely involve horticulturists, truck gardeners, and skilled exponents of folk crafts, in accordance with the new Law on Individual Labor Activity. Space will also be found at the fairs for amateur collectives, artists, and musicians.

Fairs are always a festival in Russia, a happy and noisy festival. I have visited many Moscow fairs and I have usually heard expressions of gratitude to their organizers, members of cooperatives, and personnel from the agro-industrial committees of the union republics and RSFSR oblasts. I'm sure that some people are unhappy. Let them suggest some alternatives.

Of course, apart from the fairs there is also everyday trade. There are indeed many problems in this sphere, as there are in the work of municipal services. Considerable numbers of leading cadres in these spheres have been renewed. As yet many still lack experience. We are teaching them to work and are making no allowances for anyone. Muscovites are fed up with "trade scandals," so we are exercising constant party monitoring over these sectors. As for tidiness in the city, it must be imposed and maintained by everyone. It is time we became masters not only of the state as a whole but also of our own backyard and our own street.

[Reporter] A complete picture of the capital's economic and social life was unfolded at the recent party gorkom plenum. Some time has passed since then; the first quarter is over. What new elements has it introduced into this picture and has it borne out the forecasts of Moscow's economic development?

[Yeltsin] This quarter has been highly dramatic for the city economy. [paragraph continues]

In January many enterprises switched to the state acceptance system, and everyone was perturbed by the question of how they would work given the tougher demands. The misgivings have been justified: The assurances of a whole series of leaders that enterprises were fully prepared for the switch to state acceptance in fact turned out to be a blind. For many rayons in Moscow January and February were marked by a failure to fulfill the state plans, although the plans were fulfilled for the city as a whole.

In March it was possible to end the negative trend and go some way toward making up for lost time. As already reported, the plan for the first quarter was fulfilled in terms of almost all the main indicators. An important detail is that the labor productivity growth rate (3.7 percent) considerably exceeded the production volume growth rate (2.9 percent). The fact that productivity is ahead by 0.8 percent shows that intensive factors are operating consistently, albeit slowly. It is being confirmed that it was correct to abandon the "quota" [of outside workers temporarily employed in Moscow]. Now economic managers' attention is turned not toward bringing in manpower to salvage the situation but toward seeking highly productive equipment, introducing progressive technologies, and ensuring efficient labor organization. These are the first harbingers of a restructured mentality and an orientation toward scientific and technical progress.

These are also changes in the attention paid to the social sphere. For the first time all rayons of the capital have fulfilled the targets for commissioning housing and social projects, including trade premises. For instance, 635,000 square meters of housing have been commissioned already, which is 36 percent more than last year and represents 21 percent of the annual plan.

In other words, positive changes can be seen in key areas of the efficient utilization of manpower resources, the renewal of production, and the comprehensive development of residential districts.

This is only a beginning. For many Muscovites the figures I have quoted have not yet found expression in tangible results: in an improvement in the quality and range of goods in the stores, in new housing, in uninterrupted work by transport. Another worrisome point is that there is still no rhythm and stability in work. Look at how labor collectives stepped up the pace in March and improved their indicators. Then many immediately became complacent. A whole series of enterprises again allowed a serious lag to occur in the first 10 days of April. With regard to production of the most important types of goods as well. Does this deplorable standard of work accord with the spirit of restructuring? We simply cannot get accustomed to working efficiently. We simply have to stop, relax, feel a glow of emotion at the results that have been achieved, and then spur on the horses, so to speak, and make up for lost time. Hence the large quantities of defective output. Hence also the failures to fulfill output delivery contracts. The enterprises of 20 rayons failed to meet their contractual deliveries in the first quarter. I don't think they have any reason to expect success in the future until they eliminate the rush work and failure to keep promises.

We have just one forecast: Tomorrow must be better than today. In all sectors and in all spheres. This is why we are retooling production and strengthening the social base. For instance, capital investments in developing public health and culture have increased by a factor of 1.5 in this 5-year plan compared with the 11th. There are not projections, but firm accords with Gosplan, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Light Industry, the Ministry of Trade, and other departments, accords that are acquiring the force of law, and are backed up by resources and will soon become a tangible reality for the city's residents. [paragraph continues]

To implement the schemes, we must increase the momentum of restructuring. We in party committees, economic managers, and all Muscovites must do that. What is required of us is that we not flatter ourselves on the initial changes. Given the tremendous potential of Moscow, we ought to already have much greater improvements and far better results in everything.

[Reporter] The thirst of many letters to the editorial office is this: The front line of restructuring runs not so much through machine tools as through the social interests of different strata of society. Our mail reflects the political clash that is taking place between healthy and degenerate forces. I will quote extracts from two letters expressing extreme views. "Don't snipe at us, surely it's clear that this is futile," an elderly Muscovite, the wife of a nomenklatura official, writes maliciously. "We are the elite, and you cannot halt the stratification of society. You are not strong enough. We will rip up the puny sails of your restructuring and you will be unable to reach your destination. So moderate your ardor." An Armed Forces veteran writes from the opposite pole, so to speak: "It's time to fill in the ditch of social injustice. Let us sweep out of the road those who stand in the way of restructuring." See how the struggle between advocates and foes of restructuring has heated up? Do you see this struggle abating or sharpening as restructuring proceeds further?

[Yeltsin] Why is restructuring as yet going slowly, just ticking over, as it were? Largely because there are still many reefs and even mines in its path. Clearly, the further it advances, the stronger the resistance will become. Even what the "elderly Muscovite" is writing about is not the point. She is referring to privileges. I must say that recently the MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA editorial office has raised some quite acute social issues in certain articles, and readers' reaction is even reaching the party gorkom. I'm referring to the "special schools," the use of official transport, and other matters. We are keeping an eye on these questions. They have been discussed in the party Gorkom Bureau. Both extremes are harmful here. I am certain we must seek a method of rectifying the social distortions in the student intake in language schools and expand the opportunity for as many children as possible to learn foreign languages. We must also seek a method of making more efficient use of official transport. The advantages enjoyed by Muscovite matriculants have been abolished. Everyone must have equal opportunities at the start. Holiday food orders have been made the same for everyone. We are seeking ways to even out the purchasing power of the ruble and other glaring disproportions, so to speak. We are not afraid for the sails of restructuring. No one will rip them up.

However, considerable difficulties in ensuring social justice lie in store. I am taking justice in the broad sense -- primarily in labor and wages policy. These questions affect millions of people. So the conflict of interests is more keenly felt here than anywhere. For instance, we know how hard the introduction of state acceptance is and how painful the reduction of the management apparatus is. Departmental interests and the egoism of bureaucratic centralism act as a brake. For all the CPSU Central Committee's recent measures are aimed at expanding the rights of enterprises and labor collectives. The people in the ministry central apparatuses, who are accustomed to reserve power for themselves but to shift responsibility onto others, are resisting. Those reform laws do not implement themselves. For that to happen it is necessary to crank the departmental management into action and to bolster the laws with precise orders and decisions.

The opponents of acceleration are not acting openly today. Surreptitiously retarding the progress of the reforms, they are, in V.I. Lenin's words, merely not carrying through to completion the practical work entrusted to them. Any cause can be damaged by half-measures.

Won't there be unhappy people when the principle of justice begins to operate in the distribution of all social consumption funds? There will. What is needed here is the force of openness and the establishment of the principle that whoever produces material valuables distributes them.

The problem of strengthening socialist legality particularly stands out today among the other acute questions. I have now had to address various audiences of Muscovites on this theme. I'm not going to repeat the well known cases of mutual protection that recently occurred in law enforcement organs.

We must never again allow some people to live under the law, and others to live above the law. For that is precisely what happened. Not only fathers holding high posts in the party and soviet apparatus or in trade were immune from the law. Their children and grandchildren sheltered in the shadow of their parents' immunity and did whatever they wanted. Are we safe from such things? No, not until law enforcement organs firmly come to the defense of the laws and working people's interests. This process is now under way. As yet the activity of these organs does not fully satisfy us. In some places there are flareups of bribery and abuses of power. We will continue to carry out the cleanup [ochishcheniye].

Otherwise the talk of social justice will become empty noise. Instances of lawlessness produce skepticism and disillusionment, which lead to the development of negative phenomena. The drug addiction, prostitution, and crime among children that shame Moscow did not emerge by accident. All these problems still have to be analyzed in order to eradicate phenomena alien to socialism.

We will infringe some people's immediate interests in the struggle for social justice. On the whole this struggle will strengthen the unity of all strata of society. The unity into which wedges were driven by the indulging of moneygrubbers, bribetakers, and others who want to ride to paradise on the back of the working people. Restructuring will begin to pick up full speed if this unity becomes monolithic. When will this be? That depends on us. Or, to be more accurate, on how resolutely we embark today on further democratizing all society on the basis and in the name of socialism.

[Reporter] Muscovites are discussing with concern the problems of preserving the identity of Moscow, especially the center. There are many worried remarks on this topic in the press and on television. What has now been done to stop the process of destruction, and what prospects are there for preserving and enriching the architectural face of the city?

[Yeltsin] Our position on this issue is firm — as far as possible to preserve and restore buildings that are priceless historical and cultural monuments, and to stop the unjustified (and often barbaric) demolition of them.

This is a most serious problem. It is constantly at the center of attention for the party gorkom and Moscow Gorispolkom. There is a city development council that, in the light of public and specialist opinion, collectively decides fundamental questions of new construction in the city and of preserving everything of value in its architecture. When we speak of the traditions of Moscow city development, we must remember that throughout its 840-year life Moscow has been built and has developed not as a museum but as a living city. Otherwise we would still have a wooden Kremlin and the Neglinka and other little streams instead of the central streets.

Of course, we are all opposed to foolish repetition of the past and the hasty covering of the city with characterless boxes. While showing concern for conserving what is of historic value, we are thinking how to make the city convenient for its residents. Muscovites will certainly support the decision to channel more funds into eliminating tenement houses, developing transport networks and trade and consumer service enterprises, and modernizing extremely neglected heat and water supply lines and other utilities. Fifty percent of the city-center utilities infrastructure is in a state of disrepair. Last winter confirmed this yet again.

The retooling of the capital's industry also requires sizable funds. If we work more efficiently, we will live richer lives and there will be more money for the restoration of ancient monuments.

I can confirm yet again the city conference's decision on the political importance of reconstructing the center of Moscow. The decisions will be consistently implemented.

Moscow Gorispolkom has adopted a decision on the comprehensive reconstruction of the historic city center, in other words, the part of it in which two-thirds of all historic buildings are concentrated. All this work must be carried out most cautiously. The reconstruction and restoration will be carried out in conjunction with the provision of utilities and transportation for the housing stock and cultural and consumer service facilities, the comprehensive provision of amenities, and the facelifting of streets and squares.

Thus the restoration and further development of the center pursues the aim of improving the residential conditions of people there. The center will develop as a living environment for the labor, daily lives, and leisure of Muscovites and visitors to the capital, and not as an official administrative and museum district.

Muscovites obviously already know that the formulation of the "Architectural Heritage" targeted comprehensive program is nearing completion. The aim of the program is to elevate the importance of the architectural heritage to a qualitatively new level in Moscow's urban development in the period through the year 2000. The program provides for the conservation of 9,500 historic buildings and the restoration of all 1,564 buildings classed as monuments.

To this end it will be necessary to considerably strengthen the production base of the repair and restoration organizations of Moscow Gorispolkom and also the all-union and republican Ministries of Culture.

The rights and powers of city organs of state control over the conservation and use of historical and cultural monuments will be substantially expanded. It is planned to give a single body control over research, design work, and the restoration of monuments.

The "Architectural Heritage" program will soon be submitted to Muscovites for discussion and will enter into force only after that, once city residents' opinion has been taken into account.

[Reporter] Some of our readers have formed the impression that you are avoiding offering an assessment of the new phenomena in literature, the movies, and the theater. Trends in this sphere are complex, and the gorkom and you personally could exert more influence on the course of restructuring in city creative union organizations.

[Yeltsin] I think that opinion is only partly justified. The party gorkom is aware of the processes under way in creative unions and we are developing a new style in relations. [paragraph continues]

We are displaying a considered approach toward resolving these problems: Without allowing administration by decree or foisting our own attitude on people, we are not deviating from the principles of the party-mindedness of art. As for me personally, it's true that I'm in no hurry to make assessments. I agree that more time should be devoted to work with creative collectives. Unfortunately, there is not always the time to read or see the new work that "all Moscow" is talking about.

[Reporter] Maybe the reason why Muscovites are so ill informed about the problems broached in this interview is that there is still not enough openness. Our newspaper is also to blame here: We ought to stifle gossip with frank articles; the problem is that journalists are slow off the mark. Taking a broader view of openness, how do you see it today and tomorrow? In what spheres should it be expanded?

[Yeltsin] Some people still see openness as an opportunity to throw rocks at the past. Society's natural need to comprehend the errors of the past must be respected. Unless this is done honestly and openly, what hampered our progress yesterday will block the whole road. Openness is a powerful means of moral purification and social renewal.

Openness is not only a research tool for historians. It is called upon to serve the present and the future, in other words the cause of restructuring and acceleration. Openness is an essential condition for ensuring the democratism of our entire life. This aspect of its importance to society will increase.

When problems are discussed openly people's political and social activeness increases and indifference and skepticism are overcome. Decisions are also more competent in the glare of openness. This has been shown by the nationwide discussion of the design for the victory memorial and problems such as, for instance, the preservation of historic and architectural monuments in Moscow. At a plant I once heard a worker say: Openness is truth. That is a most accurate definition. Truth cannot be partial or it becomes untruth. Openness is not openness if people put blinders on it and say: You can discuss this, but not that. In Moscow we are pursuing a policy of complete openness and complete frankness in discussing all problems. The choice is simple. Either throw open the windows so the wind can blow away all the cobwebs, or again sweep the dust into the corners and close the heavy bolts.

It is hard to overestimate the role of the mass media in this. Journalists are more rapidly getting rid of the old habits of speaking in an undertone and criticizing only when told to. Although clearly many are held back by a cautious inward censor. Incidentally, your newspaper is still choosing pettier targets. Some posts still remain outside the scope of criticism. It is now time to have a go at important offices and to unmask the complacent who are in no hurry to march more swiftly toward restructuring but want to leave everything the way it was.

People have already said this must not be, and they are insistently demanding real changes from us.

Genuine openness is not confined merely to newspaper pages and television screens. Meetings at enterprises show that people are better informed about events in the country and abroad than they are about their own collective's affairs. Cadre decisions, the allocation of housing and travel vouchers, and questions of production management decided behind workers' backs still often turn openness into an abstract term. Everyone must make openness the norm in daily life.

[Reporter] Boris Nikolayevich, we have naturally been unable to examine the whole range of questions perturbing Muscovites in this conversation.

[Yeltsin] Never mind, let's agree to meet again.

RADICAL REFORMS URGED IN PRICING POLICY

PM161309 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 3 Apr 87 p 2

[Article by N. Petrakov, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences; V. Volkonskiy, doctor of economic sciences; and A. Vavilov, candidate of economic sciences: "Price: Radical Changes Are Needed"]

[Text] Let us begin with the established view that by fixing the price of a product, the state simultaneously sets limits on the expenditure for its production. In general this is what happens and this is how it ought to be. However, it should not be taken too literally. Why? The reasons are many. Among other things, expenditure can increase irrespective of the will and desire of the enterprise. Prices for raw materials and equipment may go up, for instance, and in any case a great deal has changed since the price was fixed. If this happens and becomes disadvantageous for an enterprise to produce a certain article, you may be sure that it will find a way to get rid of it. More often than not the collective will encounter the understanding and support of the relevant ministry. The manufacturer will then more than make up the loss in production volume by disproportionately increasing the output of articles which are advantageous to produce. What, you may ask, is the use of measures to prevent overexpenditure if they result in imbalances, creating shortages of certain goods and surpluses of others which then clutter up storage facilities for years?

We hope that the cause of this very unpleasant phenomenon is understood. Production conditions, expenditure levels, and the demand for goods are constantly changing while wholesale prices are firmly fixed for long periods ahead. The contradiction is obvious. People in our country have taken pride, and some still do, in price stability. But are stable prices really such an indisputable advantage? A way out of the aforementioned dilemma can be found only by means of flexible prices.

However, who ought to change the prices and how? We maintain with utmost emphasis that neither the USSR State Committee for Prices nor any other organ can cope with this task. A simple calculation bears this out. The Committee approves around 200,000 prices annually. If you divide this number by the number of its staffers, you will see that each one of them approves 3-4 prices daily. In other words, he has to work out in a spell of 2 hours or so what constitutes the novelty of a given article, whether expenditure has been correctly taken into account, whether the quotas for the expenditures of materials are not exaggerated, and whether the returns have been accurately calculated. Furthermore, it would help if he knew whether the consumer has a need for the full range of the article's new qualities and whether he will benefit from all the advantages promised by the manufacturer. It is obvious why the committee takes months to approve proposed prices.

Everyone new probably understands that the exclusive approval of prices from above is impossible. And the question arises: Is it necessary? It is much easier to ensure the flexibility of prices when they are fixed by mutual agreement between the manufacturer and wholesale buyers. Reform in this sphere must therefore be geared to investing enterprises with the right to negotiate prices themselves, at least in respect of the main part of the output of the processing sectors.

Let us recall that the 27th CPSU Congress advocated the wider use of contract prices. But in practice misgivings still get the better of people: Will such independence not lead to an uncontrollable price race?

Well, the misgivings are well founded. We will go even further and say that this is bound to happen unless revolutionary changes are introduced in the entire economic mechanism at the same time. Indeed, if a single supplier is assigned to a consumer from above, then the latter has no choice: He becomes a prisoner, a hostage of the manufacturer who dictates his will to him. The situation will be different if we switch from distribution to wholesale trade.

However, even in these conditions there may be shortages of certain goods but there will be considerably fewer of them than today.

In our view this task will be resolved by the transition of enterprises to self-financing. At present only a very small share of "extra-profits" from increased prices goes to the enterprise, most of it, in one way or another, ends up in the state coffers. The result is that it is by no means certain that this money will be used to expand the production of goods which are in short supply. Under the conditions of self-financing, on the other hand, it is the enterprise itself which decides where the earned profit (from which payments to the state have been deducted) is to be channeled. Naturally, priority will be given to increasing the production of advantageous goods in short supply. With the growth of output, production expenditure will decrease and supply will be balanced with demand. The shortages will disappear and at the same time objective conditions will be created for reducing the wholesale price.

Until such time as radical changes in the economic mechanism are carried out, relatively simple price-fixing tasks can be resolved. Here we would give priority to bringing the price levels in the various sectors closer together. In our economy fuel and raw material resources have always been unbelievably cheap.

The product range in these sectors is stable and prices for virtually all types of raw materials are fixed for long periods ahead. In the processing industries, and particularly in machine-building, several thousands of new articles are put into production annually. New prices for these articles have to be fixed every time and it is easy for the manufacturers to put up the wholesale price (after all, the consumer, as has been pointed out, has no say in the matter, as it were).

However, this is not the only explanation for the discrepancies in the price system. To this day, wholesale prices are fixed on the basis of average expenditure in the sector as a whole. For enterprises which extract raw materials or fuel in difficult conditions the price is too low, it does not cover their expenditure. In other words, prices make no allowance for the economic rent for mining or land use. It is true that for the past 15 years planners have been using what is described as blanket expenditure normatives, that is normatives based on the highest reasonable expenditure which is inevitable in the extraction of raw materials in the worst possible conditions. But this is done exclusively for the purpose of planning. Until recently, leaders of the State Committee for Prices refused to even listen to any suggestion that such normatives should be taken into account in price fixing. If the economic rent for raw materials is taken into account it will, according to our calculations, lead to an increase in wholesale prices at the point of consumption of 125 percent for gas and power-station coal; of 200-300 percent for oil; and of 40-50 percent for metal and electricity.

We are aware that these prices look frightening but only on this basis will the correlation of prices between sectors be rectified.

Worldwide experience indicates that resource saving only occurs when the prices for resources are high enough.

Between 1973 and 1982 world prices for oil increased approximately 7-fold and as a result the consumption of oil per unit of end product fell by 20-30 percent in developed capitalist countries. How was this achieved? It was very simple. By means of measures which were formerly regarded as too expensive.

If low prices for raw materials encourage wastefulness, the exaggerated profitability of machine building is just as detrimental. Why should people update output and enhance its technical standard when old products whose production has been mastered long ago are still highly profitable?

There is essentially only one argument against taking economic rent into account. It is claimed that it is desirable to avoid a general rise in prices. Calculations have shown, however, that the inclusion of economic rent in the wholesale prices of industrial goods will change the size of the national income approximately only by 5 percent, and what is more the change will be nominal, for the record.

The situation with the economic rent in agriculture is more complex.

If it is included in the purchasing prices, the difference between them and retail prices will increase sharply and subsidies will have to be increased considerably. Generally speaking this does not present any special dangers. After all, for many years now one in three rubles of capital investments has gone to agriculture with the state covering the greater part of the investments. If the wholesale prices are increased to take in economic rent, agricultural enterprises will have the means for self-financing. Experience indicates that own money is used more effectively than money supplied by the state.

And inasmuch as the state is relieved of financing agriculture and receives additional money from rent payments it will in principle be able to increase retail price subsidies. But the essence of the problem of subsidies lies elsewhere.

Research has shown that even now it is families with higher incomes rather than low-income families which stand to gain from the subsidies. And this is of course at variance with social justice.

The time has finally come to say bluntly that the prices for food should be increased, albeit not to such a degree as to completely abolish the subsidies. And of course, it must be done in such a way as to ensure that families' real incomes do not decrease.

In some cases financial compensation would be sufficient. Let us recall that after the war when the ration cards were abolished, the prices for bread went up and simultaneously a bread payment was added to the wages. In present-day conditions an additional "meat" payment could be introduced for certain groups of families.

However, the main solution is a review of the correlation between retail prices for food products and manufactured goods. While the prices for food products are artificially low, the prices for manufactured goods are too high and include an unjustified profit margin and an excessively high turnover tax. The leveling of the prices of these two categories of goods will become increasingly necessary as the population's incomes increase. After all, the production of agricultural products is increasing much more slowly than incomes. Therefore, whether we like it or not, the increase in turnover will have to be met by manufactured goods and the existing correlation of prices will hamper this. A lowering of the prices for these goods will shift the populations's demand in the right direction while families' real incomes will not decrease.

As you can see, radical changes are necessary in the price policy. And it is inadvisable to drag our feet because restructuring is increasingly coming up against price problems.

WORK OF GRAIN PRODUCT MINISTRIES CRITICIZED

PM151021 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Apr 87 First Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "At the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee: Shortcomings in the Work of the Leaders of the USSR Ministry of Grain Products in Ensuring the Safe Storage of Grain and Processed Grain Products and Enhancing the Quality of Output at Sector Enterprises"]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee, in conjunction with the CPSU Central Committee Agriculture and Food Industry Section, has checked on the observance of rules governing the storage of grain and on the quality of output produced by grain product enterprises.

The decision taken by the committee based on the results of the check notes that leaders of the USSR Ministry of Grain Products (Comrade Minister G.S. Zolotukhin) are carrying out the restructuring of its activity in the light of the 27th congress and the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum too slowly, have not drawn the necessary conclusions from the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers 11 July 1986 Resolution "On Measures To Increase the Stability of the Country's Grain Industry and Increase Grain and Forage Resources in the 12th 5-Year Plan," and have failed to take exhaustive measures to remove serious shortcomings in the work designed to ensure safe storage of grain and processed grain products and enhance the quality of output.

The check showed that the technological requirements for grain storage are being grossly neglected at many enterprises as a result of lack of discipline on the part of leaders, records are poorly kept, and substantial shortfalls and surpluses of output are regularly brought to light. In the last 30 months losses from shortfalls, spoilage, and theft of commodity stocks have amounted to R7.3 million. Internal affairs organs have detected more than 2,840 crimes of personal gain, including 214 cases of large-scale and particularly large-scale theft. Nor has the disgraceful phenomenon of bribery of officials have eradicated.

A particularly unhappy situation regarding the storage of grain and processed grain products has arisen in a number of oblasts in the Kazakh SSR. At the Dzhambulskiy Grain Products Combine alone shortfalls of grain and meal worth a total of \$376,000 were discovered. Cases of large-scale theft of grain and processed grain products were also detected at enterprises of the RSFSR, Ukrainian, Uzbek, Georgian, and Turkmen SSR Ministries of Grain Products.

The leadership of the USSR Ministry of Grain Products is failing to make principled demands on the workers of republic ministries and oblast grain product administrations to ensure enterprises' timely preparation to receive grain, strict observance of the conditions for receiving grain and the determination of quality indicators, and the organization of grain drying, cleaning, and decontamination. Moreover, it was established that there were breaches of state standards and the production of substandard output in more than half the enterprises checked by organs of the State Committee for Standards. Adequate measures have not been taken to meet the CPSU Central Committee and government requirements regarding rational consumption of food resources and the strengthening of state procurement discipline. A considerable volume of hulled crops is used for the production of mixed feeds and alcohol. In 1985 alone 324,000 tonnes of millet, 38,000 tonnes of rice, and 228,000 tonnes of rice grits [risovaya krupa] were processed for mixed feed. Last year only 27 percent of the target for purchases of pulse crops was met, with the figures for buckwheat and corn being 48 and 70 percent, respectively.

Comrade First Deputy Minister I.I. Shtodin, who is responsible for the preparation of seed stock, is failing to take resolute measures to remove the serious shortcomings in the preparation of seed, a considerable proportion of which does not attain good sowing condition. Around 40 percent of grain seed allocated to kolkhozes and sovkhoses is of class 3 sowing standard. As of 1 February this year only 12 percent of seed has attained class 1 standard and 56 percent class 2 standard. Corn seed is being prepared extremely unsatisfactorily and the techniques employed fall considerably below advanced foreign experience. State seed inspection has revealed numerous cases of discrepancy between the actual quality of seed material and the documentation issued by grain product enterprises.

The committee's decision stresses that the ministry has failed to effect a substantial improvement in the quality of bread and bakery products supplied to the trade network. Numerous complaints about the poor quality of bread and bakery products are being received from cities and villages in the RSFSR, the Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Armenia, and Estonia. Rejected output at a number of the bakeries investigated amounts to 30-40 percent or higher, which leads to considerable losses of grain resources. The quality of pasta remains low.

The ministry and Deputy Minister M.L. Timoshishin personally are responsible for serious shortcomings in the leadership of the mixed feed industry. A considerable amount of mixed feed is not properly balanced in terms of protein, vitamin, and mineral content, milling techniques are violated, and deviations from the prescribed formulas are allowed. Around 70 percent of mixed feed as a whole is not balanced in terms of food value. Under 10 percent of the starter [startovyy] mixed feed required is being produced. Spoiled grain infected by fungal mold is quite often used to produce mixed feed. In 1986 one in three of the mixed feed plants checked was guilty of breaching the requirements of technical normative specifications and formulas. Many enterprises have been forbidden to ship out substandard mixed feed, and output worth R7.7 million has been excluded from accounts figures because of its poor quality.

Late and short-volume delivery of seed stock, mineral additives, and chemically active substances by organizations of the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee and the USSR Ministry of the Medical and Microbiological Industry is also adversely affecting the quality indicators of grain product enterprises' work.

Insufficient attention is being paid to strengthening enterprises' material and technical base. Only 87 percent of the target for construction and installation work was met in the last 5-year plan. In 1986 only 72 percent of construction and installation work at 17 milling plants due for commissioning in 1987 was carried out. Of 14 mixed feed plants due to come on stream this year equipment has begun to be installed in only 6 of them. The prompt start-up of the capacities of commissioned enterprises is not being assured.

The ministry's scientific research institutes and design bureaus are not sufficiently involved in developing new equipment and manufacturing processes and are exerting only a weak influence on the process of speeding up scientific and technical progress in the sector.

The CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee drew the attention of Comrade G.S. Zolotukhin, USSR minister of Grain Products and member of the CPSU, to the serious shortcomings in organizing the implementation of party and government decisions designed to ensure that all grain and processed grain products are safely stored, grain resources effectively utilized, and output quality enhanced.

Note was taken of his statement that the ministry will carry out necessary measures to remove the shortcomings in question, and that demands on cadres to ensure that the sector makes an increasing contribution to the successful implementation of the task set by the party -- the task of meeting the country's food needs in the shortest possible time -- have been stepped up in the light of the decisions of the 27th congress and CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum.

A severe warning was issued to Comrade I.I. Shtodin, USSR first deputy minister of grain products and member of the CPSU, for shortcomings in organizing procurements and preparation of seed stock.

Comrade M.L. Timoshishin, USSR deputy minister of grain products and member of the CPSU, was reprimanded for lack of discipline in carrying out the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers 11 July 1986 resolution, for serious shortcomings in leadership of the mixed feed industry, and for the poor quality of the output produced by the subsector's enterprises.

The following CPSU members were censured for serious shortcomings in the work of subordinate administrations and enterprises in ensuring safe storage of grain and for the poor quality of output: Comrade N. Y.a. Golub, RSFSR minister of grain products; Comrade Yu.I. Ostapenko, Kazakh SSR minister of grain products; Comrade N.P. Kompanents, Ukrainian SSR first deputy minister of grain products.

The CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee drew the attention of Comrade A.A. Kochkonyan, secretary of the USSR Ministry of Grain Products party committee, and the party organizations of main administrations and administrations to shortcomings in organizational and political work in carrying out the decisions of the 27th congress and CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum in restructuring the work of the ministry apparatus, and to lax monitoring of the execution of party and government decisions designed to ensure the safe storage and enhanced quality of grain products.

MEDIA COVERS 9-20 APR AGRICULTURAL WORK

LD160252 [Editorial report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 9-20 April. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

9 April: Azerbaijan today began mass sowing of rape. This year more than 50,000 hectares [ha] in the republic are to be sown to that crop -- one-third more than last year. (0400)

Sowing is delayed in Tajikistan because of bad weather. According to the opinion of experts this delays does not threaten harvest. In Kaluga Oblast over 3,000 ha will be sown to oats, barley, and rape, although snow still covers the fields. All this is thanks to intensive methods. (2130)

According to the CSA of the RSFSR, there has been purchased for the end of March almost 5,000 tonnes of vegetables less than last year. This can be accounted for by the severity of last winter, but not entirely; the growers of vegetables in Mari ASSR, Kuybyshev, Ryazan, Smolensk, and Tula Oblasts are listed as inefficient. They have allowed the most considerable fall in the volume of purchases -- some 40-46 percent. (2130)

10 April: Spring field work has been completed in the southern rayons of Moldavia. In order to strengthen the winter crop areas, which have suffered because of the tough winter, more than 50,000 ha have been resown with spring crops. (2304)

Viktor Fedorovich Korovkin, deputy chairman of the state Agro-Industrial Committee of the Mordovian ASSR, has said: Unfortunately, the level of agricultural production at many kolkhozes and sovkhozes remains level. During the years of the 11th 5-Year Plan period the average grain yield throughout the republic was only 13.4 quintals of grain per ha. Some 18 quintals of fodder units per standard head of cattle was procured. In the current year the task has been set of obtaining from each ha no less than 18 quintals of grain and of procuring 24 quintals of feed units per standard head of cattle. (0320)

11 April: No fileworthy reports monitored.

12 April: Georgian tea farmers began picking the leaves of the new harvest today. All tea harvesting machinery is out in the fields. (1300)

13 April: The time for sowing has come to the southern oblasts of the Ukraine. Early grain crops are to occupy nearly 5 million ha. (1440)

14 April: The weather has improved in Uzbekistan, and the tempo of cotton sowing has accelerated. In Fergana and Andizhan oblasts more than half the land has been sown; the Tashkent oblast is using the sowing machinery efficiently and the Republic's cotton growers are sowing more than 100,000 ha per day. (0400)

15 April: Checking of readiness for spring sowing is nearly finished in Saratov Oblast. The area under cultivation will amount to almost 4.5 million ha. (2004)

16 April: The protracted spring has displaced the schedule of field work in the Ukraine by about a month so that now, as soon as the soil starts to dry out a little, machine operators are attempting to make up for lost time. Farms of the Crimea and Odessa regions are undertaking sowing work on a broad front. Agricultural workers of the Zaporozhye, Kherson, Nikolayev, and Transcarpatia regions have started to plant seeds of early spring crops. (1500)

After 200 hours of uninterrupted hard work, machine operators, drivers, and railwaymen of Bukhara permitted themselves a rest today after having averted the danger of a flood in the Kyzylkum desert. Protracted cloudbursts brought about an unprecedented meltwater flood in the lower reaches of the Zeravshan River. Water flowing into the river trebled and there was a real threat of flooding to fields where cotton has just been sown and to kishlaks in the area where new lands are being harnessed. (1500)

17-18 April: No fileworthy reports monitored.

19 April: It is reported from Odessa that new management methods have proved their worth in kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the Black Sea region which are based on teams and financial autonomy. Despite the protracted spring, the majority of them have coped with the sowing of early spring crops and leguminous cultures at good rates. (0100)

It has been reported to us that the sowing of early spring crops has been finished by agricultural workers of the steppe regions of northern Ossetiya. Spring is almost 3 weeks late in arriving in the Caucasus, but all work has been carried out to a high level of quality. (0200)

Tajik farmers have completed sowing most valuable fine-fiber cotton seeds. By today, cotton in the republic has been sown to about 180,000 hectares, or more than 56 percent of the total acreage. Taking into account the lateness of the sowing season this year, agronomists have worked out the order of work during accumulation of harvest, which is expected to help the farmers to make up for the time lost at the beginning of the season. (0204)

Machine operators in many kolkhozes and sovkhoses in Krasnodar Kray were forced to break off work in the fields today. Heavy snow has fallen here. The merry-go-round of snow has gripped central regions of Kuban in particular. In some of them, the temperature fell to zero. As the forecasters had assumed, it is the result of an influx of Arctic air. Under the influence of the Caucasian mountains, the cold front intensified. Even snowstorms are expected in regions in the foothills and the danger of avalanches is increasing in the mountains. For this reason, local inhabitants were informed of the fact as early as last night. Warning reports are being broadcast periodically by Kray radio. (1100)

20 April: Land tracts of the Mari non-Chernozem Zone are free of snow, but it is still too damp for the sowing machines. The first to commence the spring field work here is the agricultural aviation: local and Uzbek aircraft which came here to help have started top-dressing the winter crops. (0000)

The Azerbaijan farmers have commenced sowing corn for grain. In the next few years, intensive technology is going to be used on the total acreage. (0400)

Farmers have resumed field work as the weather has warmed up. The sowing season this year started later than almost never before. The volume of work has been doubled, because the winter crops have not grown. (0400)

In Lithuania, agrochemists, repair workers and land improvers have as of today started a complex service of the spring fields covering the area of 800,000 hectares. Over 1,000 sowing complexes have been broken up into teams which helps to transfer machinery more efficiently to the areas that need it most. (0800)

Snow storms as biting as in winter have continued without a break for several days over a number of rayons in Stavropol Kray. The first shoots in the field which were about to turn green are again under a covering of snow. The cold snaps and snowfalls have forced machine operators to interrupt field work. Specialists of the kray agro-industrial committee and the agronomists of kolkhozes and sovkhoses are making adjustments on an urgent basis in response to the situation. (1100)

Corn sowing began in Chimkent Oblast, Kazakhstan. (1200)

The sowing of early spring crops started in in Nikolayev Oblast. (1200)

TASS NOTES LAUNCH OF PROGRESS-29 SPACE SHIP

LD211829 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1647 GMT 21 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow, 21 Apr (TASS) -- In accordance with the program of further work of the Mir orbital scientific station, the automatic freight vessel "Progress-29" was launched in the USSR at 1914 Moscow time today. The purpose of launch is the delivery to the station of disposable materials and various loads.

The vessel has been placed in an orbit with the following parameters: maximum distance from the earth's surface 257 km; minimum distance 194 km; period of revolution 88.7 minutes; inclination 51.6 degrees.

The on-board systems of the freight ship are functioning normally.

TASS UPDATES ACTIVITIES OF MIR COSMONAUTS

LD172120 Moscow TASS in English 1128 GMT 17 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 17 TASS -- Yuriy Romanko and Aleksandr Laveykin have completed their tenth week in outer space.

Yesterday the cosmonauts completed yet another stage of work to switch the Kvant astrophysical module to the regime of manned flight. In particular, they activated elements of the system that ensures the necessary gas composition and hooked sensors installed on the module to the main block's solar battery orientation system.

The crew is undergoing a regular medical checkup today. In the morning the cosmonauts measured body mass, evaluated the state of muscles that are underused in conditions of weightlessness. In the afternoon the two cosmonauts will undergo checks of their cardio-vascular systems both in conditions of rest and in conditions of various degrees of intensity of pedalling the space bike (veloergometer).

Judging by results of medical monitoring Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Laveykin are in good health and high spirits.

The flight of the Mir manned orbital complex continues.

ACADEMICIAN KOTELNIKOV VIEWS SPACE RESEARCH PLANS

PM211325 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Apr 87 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "The Orbit of Peace and Labor"]

[Text] Cosmonautics Day was a great festival of labor, science, and technology for Soviet people. A ceremonial meeting devoted to the event held at the Central Academic Theater of the Soviet Army 10 April was attended by scientists, designers, cosmonauts, and representatives of the capital's public.

In the presidium were A.I. Lukyanov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Yu.D. Maslyukov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; CPSU Central Committee department chiefs O.S. Belyakov and N.I. Savinkin; leaders of a number of USSR ministries and departments; prominent Soviet scientists; designers; USSR pilot-cosmonauts; and representatives of labor collectives.

Academician V. Kotelnikov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences and chairman of the Interkosmos Council, delivered a report at the meeting.

In October 1957 the whole world, he said, was truly amazed when hearing of the launch of the Earth's first artificial satellite built in a socialist country. And the news that the first man to enter space and circle the Earth in a spacecraft was Yuriy Gagarin, a Soviet citizen, amazed people even more.

Since that time Soviet cosmonautics has advanced a long way. The amount of space equipment working for the Earth's needs is increasing with every passing year. Communication, meteorological, natural science, geodetic, and navigational satellites are used to resolve tasks whose solution by traditional methods and means is simply unthinkable because of the tremendous material expenditure and time involved.

In marking the 26th anniversary of the first manned space flight today, V. Kotelnikov said, the importance attached in our country to the development of manned flights and the constant improvement of manned spacecraft must be emphasized. The Soviet Union's achievements in this sphere are widely known.

The speaker noted further that the program for the utilization of the Mir station, where Yu. Romanenko and A. Laveykin have been working since 8 February, envisages the creation of a permanently operational manned complex which will comprise specialized modules for scientific and national economic purposes.

As reported earlier, the flight of the station of an international crew including a Syrian cosmonaut is scheduled for July this year. Cosmonauts from Bulgaria and France who are to take part in flights planned for 1988 have started their training at the Zvezdnyy Gorodok space center.

A series of new large satellites with automatic mode telescopes are currently being built in the Soviet Union. Early next year it is also planned to launch an observatory equipped with the world's biggest gamma-telescope into orbit. Soviet cosmonautics plans for the near future include the creation of a space radiointerferometer which will consist of several ground-based radiotelescopes and two artificial earth satellites launched into space orbits. The Soviet Union has proposed launching space apparatus for peaceful purposes with the help of Soviet rockets, installing client-countries' instruments for the production or purification of materials in space conditions on Soviet satellites or stations, conducting space surveys of individual territories, and hiring out Soviet communication satellites.

However, the main obstacle to the implementation of these mutually advantageous projects is the U.S. Administration's embargo on the importation to the USSR of space devices intended for launching if they contain U.S. components.

Our country, V. Kotelnikov said in conclusion, favors open cooperation in which anyone can join without discrimination and which would bring the peoples tangible benefits. The development of large-scale peaceful cooperation in the sphere of space research with the participation of all states is a sensible alternative to the plans for extending the arms race to space.

UZBEK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING

NC211231 Tashkent Domestic Service in Uzbek 0115 GMT 8 Apr 87

[Text] The Uzbek SSR Academy of Sciences held its annual meeting in Tashkent yesterday. The participants discussed in detail the tasks of scientific collectives related to upgrading the contribution of knowledge and science to the republic's intensified economic and social development, as demanded by the CPSU program for a more intensified pace. Comrade Khabibullayev, president of the Uzbek SSR Academy of Sciences and corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, opened the meeting.

Academicians Rashidov and Yusupov, vice presidents of the Uzbek SSR Academy of Sciences, and Academician Muzafarov, chief academic secretary of the Biological Sciences Department, reported on the main scientific developments of 1986 and the tasks of the Uzbek SSR Academy of Sciences in 1987. Academician Musayev, scientific secretary of the Academy Presidium, read a report on the work of the Presidium and on the scientific research plan for 1987.

The reports and speeches made during the meeting noted that the significant and complex tasks assigned by the party to the scientists in connection with reorganization and reconstruction will require reforms in the efforts of all departments of the Uzbek SSR Academy of Sciences to improve performance.

The decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress clearly define the main directions for scientific development. Accelerating scientific and technical development, which is necessary to achieve a high level of efficiency and productivity and using modern technical and technological discoveries on a wide scale are prerequisites for intensified development. The decisions adopted by the January 1987 CPSU Central Committee Plenum have reemphasized the importance of utilizing scientific and technical discoveries in efforts to upgrade production. [sentence indistinct]

Comrade Usmankhodzhaev, first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee, addressed the meeting. The participants approved measures drawn up by the Academy of Sciences to mark the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. They also approved the socialist obligations for 1987 undertaken by the committees of the Academy's scientific establishments and organizations.

Comrades (?Rzhanov), CPSU Central Committee sector chief [title as heard], Sakin, first secretary of the Tashkent City Party Committee, and [name indistinct], deputy chairman of the Uzbek SSR Council of Ministers Presidium, participated in the work of the meeting.

NUCLEAR SPECIALIST LEGASOV DISCUSSES AES SAFETY

LD181526 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0815 GMT 18 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow, 18 April (TASS) -- The further strategy for the development of atomic power in the USSR is determined today, to a considerable degree, by the solution of technical problems connected with operational safety at AES, Academician Valeriy Legasov, major specialist in this field, said in a conversation with a TASS correspondent.

III. 22 Apr 87

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USSR NATIONAL AFFAIRS
SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

I will say right away: The incident in Chernobyl a year ago has in no way changed our attitude to atomic power in principle, yet, undoubtedly, it will remain a serious lesson for years ahead, along with the preceding most strong incident at Three Mile Island in the United States. We could see to what degree it affected programs, technology and the development of nuclear power throughout the world, the scientist said.

We have no intention to give up nuclear power in future either, provided, of course, that the level of safety at atomic power stations is very high.

However paradoxical it may seem at first, I can state with full responsibility that the risk of an accident at the AES is not at all greater than at any other enterprise, say, at a chemical one. The whole world has yet to finally resolve the process of interaction between man and technology, and with the development of scientific and technical progress this problem is becoming ever more topical, noted Academician Legasov. As you can see, atomic energy is no exception in this chain.

In my view, he said, both in atomic power and in other industries systems should be created in which operator shortcomings are compensated for by the advantages of the equipment, and the machinery's insufficiencies are smoothed out by the skill of the person at the controls. Practice has shown that the complete automation of, for example, those same atomic generating sets, is impossible and that accidents resulting from equipment failures can cause great damage. For the moment our task consists in finding a competent solution to all the problems concerning interaction between man and technology.

OFFICIAL VIEWS JOINT COMMERCIAL LAUNCH PROSPECTS

LD131831 Moscow TASS in English 1803 GMT 13 Apr 87

[Text] Tokyo, April 13 TASS -- The Soviet Union is prepared for joint practical activities for the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space with other states, including with Japan, a press conference was told here today by Stepan Bogodyazh, chief of the Department of International Relations of "Glavkosmos" (the Soviet chief outer space administration). This is the aim of the Soviet proposals concerning the commercial launchings by Soviet delivery vehicles of foreign spacecraft for ensuring space communication and carrying out various scientific research.

"Glavkosmos" represents the Soviet Union at the exhibition "Japan's Technology-87", which opened here today. The Soviet exposition represented in the section "Space industry" introduces the visitors to the achievements of Soviet space science and technology, the application of cosmonautics in navigation, meteorology, development of new materials and medical preparations, in other fields of the economy.

The programme put forward by the USSR for cooperation on mutually acceptable conditions for peaceful outer space exploration, the Soviet representative said, provides for the granting by the Soviet side of separate communication channels and the launching of communication satellites, long-distance probing of the atmosphere, medical-biological research, work in the field of space technology, putting payloads for scientific research and experiments into the orbit of artificial satellites by the Soviet delivery vehicles, which have repeatedly demonstrated reliability and excellent technical characteristics.

ETHNIC DIVERSITY OF ARMED FORCES VIEWED

PM151519 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Mar 87 Second Edition p 3

["Notes of a Military Publicist" by Colonel V. Filatov: "National Color"]

[Text] There was a fight between two soldiers. What could the two soldiers not agree to share? The area their commander had ordered them to sweep. One was inclined to be lazy about everything and the other was not renowned for being particularly hardworking. One tried to make the other do all the work. And the other wanted to do the same. Naturally, there was a conflict. They crudely insulted one another. There was an investigation, an inquiry, a tribunal....

Anything can happen in life, of course, particularly when two idlers get together. Should this be regarded as significant? But this episode was colored by the fact that these two soldiers were of different nationalities. And in the fight over the area their commander had ordered them to sweep, features came to light that had absolutely nothing to do with the rubbish around the barracks and on the drill ground. Anyone listening to the things these two were shouting at one another could say that disrespect was shown for a nation and that national sensibilities and national pride were humiliated and even insulted....

In the Transbaykal Military District, from Chita and beyond, I came across a soldier in the barracks of one regiment who was reading a thick novel in Lithuanian. In the library I discovered shelves with literature in Lithuanian, Moldavian, Latvian, and other languages of the peoples of the USSR. Where had they come from? They are sent from the republics at the request of the regiment command. Soldiers also bring books with them and, when they are transferred to the reserve, they present them to the library. In the same regiment newspaper files in the national languages of almost all the republics lay on the library tables. Against this background I was struck by a conflict that had suddenly flared up unexpectedly and unpredicted between two soldiers of different nationalities. And what was the cause of this particular conflict? It arose over whose turn it was to do kitchen duty. A sign of nationalism? A sign of chauvinism? Or perhaps there is no elementary order in the company, the duty roster is not followed, perhaps there is no regular sequence for the assumption of duty by soldiers and subunits, perhaps people do not know who will be doing what tomorrow, the day after tomorrow, next week?

It is clear to the reader that there are problems in international education. But it is no less important to talk about what we have achieved and share our observations on specific manifestations of military comradeship and fraternity that in our country, always have a national color -- figuratively speaking. And it is firmer and finer because of this.

I had a conversation with Colonel V. Nechitaylo, Chief of the political section at the Marshal of the Soviet Union I.S. Konev Higher Combined Arms Command School in Alma-Ata.

"What is the international education situation in your school?" I asked him.

"We had those famous events in December. I assembled all the Kazakhs in our school -- 160 of them. Colonels, officer cadets, and warrant officers. I had a talk with them. I listened to what they had to say. In brief, what they basically said was this: 'Renegades and hooligans are raging on the streets.' [paragraph continues]"

'And a hooligan is a hooligan, no matter whether he is in Kazakhstan, Estonia, or the Ukraine.... We are ready to carry out any order, comrade colonel.' Our trainees and teachers display internationalism in action, not in words. Two of our graduates were made heroes of the Soviet Union for performing their international duty in Afghanistan: Akramov and Shakhvorostov. Andrey Shakhvorostov was given his award posthumously. To date 211 of our graduates fulfilling their international duty in the DRA like Akramov and Shakhvorostov have been given orders and medals from our country and from Afghanistan...."

In Paktia Province, western Afghanistan, Afghan army battalions were conducting combat operations against rebel formations under the infamous Gulbuddin.

The Afghan command requested our soldiers to back up these battalions with gunfire, cover an assault from behind the dushmans' lines, and protect their passage along roads through the ravines.... It was then that I met a team of helicopter pilots at one of the airstrips among the mountains -- Captain Yuriy Oleynik, the team commander, Senior Lieutenant Ivan Ilin, pilot and navigator, and Viktor Gerasimov, the flight technician; I did not write down his title at the time and I cannot remember it now....

Yuriy Oleynik was Ukrainian, Viktor Gerasimov, Russian, and Ivan Ilin, Buryat. When he told me that he was a Buryat, I thought how lucky I was -- you can go through life in the Soviet Union without ever meeting a Buryat once, our country being as vast as it is. And here I was, in Afghanistan, in the mountains, in a combat zone, and I meet a Buryat; the total number of Buryats is no more than the number of inhabitants in a small city such as Chernigov or Gomel, for example. Before my meeting with Yuriy Oleynik's team I had a conversation with Lieutenant Colonel A. Chumakov, squadron commander. This is what he said about the team.

"They operate in such a way that the dushmans have put a price of 1 million afghanis on each of them. We have seen lists with these prices. The main purpose of their flights is to discover dushman antiaircraft guns while helicopter assault landings are made. And this means that they fly over and draw the fire onto themselves -- there is no other way of doing it.... They fly over, set themselves up as targets, and thereby discover the location of the antiaircraft guns...."

In a conversation with Ivan Ilin we talked about the danger involved when making such a flight -- it cannot be denied that they are dicing with death every time. Ilin laughed and said:

"We are a small nation. And if I am not an expert at my job, who will ever get to hear of this nation? A nation's self-respect depends on how you, as a representative of this nation, know your business, how you carry out your military duty, and how you perform in the tasks with which you are entrusted.... This is how I understand it...."

I later found out that at the end of their service in Afghanistan all three were awarded Soviet and Afghan combat orders.

The same kind of thing was said to me by Junior Sergeant Valdemar Kruminysh, the best driver-mechanic in an assault unit and a Latvian by birth. I spent several days in his armored vehicle; his armored car clocked up many kilometers of roads edged with so many mines that we could see them from above, like mushrooms. Throughout this period Kruminysh led the column, the others following after. [paragraph continues]

The regiment commander, Lieutenant Colonel Sergey Aleksandrovich Didenko, said this about Kruminysh:

"Kruminysh is the kind of soldier I hold up as an example to everyone. If anyone is not immediately sure what kind of soldier he must be in the army, I say to him -- be like Kruminysh."

I remember in this connection how a Kama truck loaded with ammunition took a direct hit on a mountain road and started to burn first along the side, and then the tarpaulin cover caught fire; everyone froze with panic because they were sure the ammunition was about to explode -- flames were already licking the packaging. Private Kurban Mamedov was the first to rush to extinguish the fire, then the rest followed.... I remember Captain Ramil Abzalimov -- a heroic battalion commander. He trained his men to take dushman machine-gunners, mortarmen, and members of missile launch detachments in their positions and trenches at night without firing a single shot.... I remember Sergeant Olime Yuldashev, such a skilled radio operator that he was appointed chief of the radio station although he also held the position of Persian and Dari translator -- I did not meet another sergeant like him in any of the units forming the limited contingent of our troops in Afghanistan. I remember Senior Lieutenant Gaybullo Fayazov, who went alone, unarmed, to villages where, according to intelligence reports, dushmans were hiding -- they later surrendered and concluded agreements with the people's power on ending the armed struggle.... I also remember the brave sappers -- Private M. Saysenbayev, Private Kh. Rezhoglov, Private D. Seydkhalilov....

I also had another unique meeting -- with Captain Aleksandr Eduardovich Petrov. He had recently been awarded the Red Star. I flew with him to a point on the Pakistan border where he was taking a group of sappers. They had the task of mining the roads and approaches literally under the dushmans' noses so that Afghan units would be able to attack rebel positions. Under fire, Petrov fearlessly approached the landing area, hovered a meter away from a rocky plateau, and landed the sappers; we had not even had time to leave the zone of fire before Petrov was instructed to pick up the wounded from one of the mountain passes -- at a height of more than 3,000 metres. For Petrov's helicopter this was a superior altitude and therefore required a superior pilot. In addition to this, the helicopter was raked by heavy machinegun fire from the dushmans.... But Petrov did everything in masterly fashion....

"I am a Yakut by birth," the captain told me later at the airstrip. "My father was a horse breeder and my mother was a milkmaid on a farm. I also have four brothers and one sister. What else can I tell you? I can tell you for sure that I am the only Yakut here in Afghanistan. What does it mean to think that your nation is out of the ordinary? It means working better than everyone and to the envy of everyone. What does it mean to think that your nation is an equal among equals? It means doing your duty as well as everyone else. But as a communist I must do my duty better than everyone else. This is how I understand myself and the fact that I belong to the small nation of Yakuts."

Again and again I heard the familiar words, witnessed the understandable desire to keep the honor of one's nation pure, and saw how marvelously people acted in their relations with others.

A group of soldiers and officers who had completed their service in the limited contingent were being seen off at the airport. They were about to board the aircraft. And then the general led a captain up to me. The general had his arm round the captain's shoulder, like a brother. The general said to me:

"Write about him, will you? I beg you to write about him. He is a great commander, you know!" [paragraph continues]

"It was with company commanders like these that Moscow was defended and Berlin taken, you know! He already has the Red Star and a medal 'For Bravery in Service'.... He is the best commander in the company. He has served 2 years and 2 months in Afghanistan.... The day the order came through for his replacement, he led his company in a combat operation. And -- the general still had one arm around the captain's shoulder, stroking the medal ribbons on his chest with the other -- he has been wounded twice before this, you know, but he went on the operation despite the fact that he did not have to go -- the order had come through for his replacement...."

This was my introduction to Captain Valeriy Karyugin. There was not enough time for a long conversation as he was about to board the aircraft, but we still exchanged two or three words in the general's presence.

"Two years and 2 months were not enough, it seems?" I asked, having the last combat operation in mind.

"That is not the point. There are no more than three people of the same nationality in my company. We have men from almost all of the 15 republics. My replacement is still inexperienced. And this was going to be a tough task, you might say. The dushmans are trained in various skills -- goodbye...."

But then he said this:

"In addition to all this, I am a Russian. A great nation is not so much a question of size -- a great nation is when you become an example to everyone else, when your comrades, whatever their nationality, try to emulate you and become better and stronger by your side. Our country is a country of equals. This is what commits me personally to a great deal."

In Afghanistan I met a hero of the Soviet Union, then still a captain, Fedor Pugachev; in Moscow I met Hero of the Soviet Union Major Gennadiy Kuchkin, who had been made hero of the Soviet Union while still in Afghanistan; I visited the unit in which he was made hero.... I also met others -- heroes of the Soviet Union, holders of the Order of Lenin, and ordinary people like Private Andrey Panfilov, a driver who, in a similar situation to the one in which Private Kurban Mamedov found himself -- a transport vehicle carrying ammunition took a direct hit from a shell and went up like a torch nothing could subdue, with soldiers from several companies standing nearby -- bravely leaped into the cab of the burning vehicle and drove it to a safe distance. There the vehicle exploded into the air, causing only a little damage....

I met them, a great many of them, and when I asked them how they could, where they found the strength to be the first to face the bullets, to remain alone, facing certain death, to cover their comrades' retreat, and draw the fire onto themselves to help others, they all said the same thing in turn, in one form or another, phrasing their answers differently, but saying the same thing nevertheless: "I am Soviet, how could I have done otherwise?...."

I have been in Afghanistan three times, in the units and subunits of the limited Soviet troop contingent, so what have I brought away with me from my time there in the sense of understanding relations between our soldiers of different nationalities in that extreme situation filled with danger? How do they relate to one another in those difficult, sometimes deadly dangerous conditions?

they value one another. And if there is any rivalry, then it is over who comes to the assistance of a comrade the fastest, who most reliably covers a friend in combat, who shows the greatest respect for fellow servicemen, who is the first to go into the attack, who has done the greatest service for the socialist motherland, and who brings the greatest glory to it by their heroism, courage, and filial love for it. This is the plane on which relations there between our soldiers of different nationalities lie and this is the form their rivalry takes, if one can express it as such.

and so why is that this situation exists in the companies of our limited contingent in Afghanistan while things are different among some young people in Alma-Ata, the scene of those well known events? The reasons for these are newly apparent arrogance and disdain. The gulf between word and deed. The violation of social justice, when total licence runs rampant. In such an atmosphere any emphasis is easily displaced and the most sacred concepts and ideas can be distorted. Great and lofty tasks play no part in life.

The enemies of restructuring come in various forms. But they must be recognized. Otherwise, retarding factors can be overcome. The enemy of restructuring grabs at everything today: he is in favor of openness... of his own particular circle, of course; he is all for social justice... for his own clan, of course; he is for his own nation and national dignity.... Only what is understood by this: At present it means only one thing: Do not touch us, do not touch our clan, our clan does not need to be restructured, everything is fine with us, we have everything we need.... Meat or everyone has only recently appeared in Alma-Ata stores, incidentally.

The party offers everyone a great lofty, honest, noble task, in which a person can be ennobled and become better than he was before. The answer lies in joining this task, our common national task. And we must show ourselves to be part of this in Chita, Alma-Ata, Kiev, Tallin, Moscow, Dushanbe.... Just as the sons of these cities and all our republics show themselves to be part of this common task when fulfilling their military duty to the motherland and protecting its sacred borders.

With the action over in the combat zone, we returned to where the troops were stationed. One evening I was witness to the following conversation:

Aruminysh -- He is a master with these mined roads. If he is leading the column you can be sure that no vehicle behind him will be blown up.

Aruminysh? He is Latvian, they are all like that.

I heard the same kind of thing later, when the conversation went on -- or I deliberately led it in that direction -- Yuriy Oleunik, Ivan Ilin, Ramil Abzalimov, Alim Yuldashev, and Kurban Mamedov.... But the most striking thing was the fact that when I led that conversation onto the subject of Captain Petrov and his bravery and courage while I was talking to pilots in the squadron, the reply was familiar:

Petrov? But he is a Yakut -- they are all like that.

But I knew for certain that Yakut Petrov was the only Yakut at that time in the whole of Afghanistan. The speaker had never been anywhere near the Yakutsk ASSR in his life -- Petrov was the first and only Yakut he had ever met.

This is how our people regard one another in Afghanistan, whatever nationality they are. With admiration and affection.

In Afghanistan our soldiers and soldiers from the Afghan Army live literally side by side, they are forever calling in one another, they stage amateur concerts for one another, and they often do their combat training exercises together, at the same training ground. I visited an Afghan regiment with a translator -- it was stationed close by one of our units. It was the lunch hour and the soldiers were sitting in the smoking rooms. Someone was speaking in one of the rooms, I noticed. The others were listening to him closely. I asked the translator what the conversation was about. He replied that the subject of the conversation was the recent combat operations a regiment had led together with our battalion. In a pause one of the soldiers made a remark and everyone around him nodded in agreement. I asked the translator what the soldier had said. He replied:

The first man had been talking about how our men had saved their company from being surrounded and killed. And the second soldier said: "Shuravi? But they are all like that -- they get killed themselves but they save our skins. They are all like that..."

Shuravi is the Afghan word used to describe us -- not simply Russians, Ukrainians, Belorussians, Kazakhs, and Latvians individually, but all of us together -- Soviets.

They are all like that...

MILITARY LEADERS SIGN GENERAL FOMIN OBITUARY

PM211559 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Apr 87 First Edition p 3

[N.S. Fomin Obituary]

[Excerpts] Hero of the Soviet Union Colonel General Nikolay Sergeyevich Fomin has died after a grave illness.

He devoted all his conscious life to selfless service of the socialist motherland and the cause of the Communist Party, of which he had been a member since 1937.

N.S. Fomin was born on 19 July 1895 in the town of Yuryev-Polskiy in what is now Vladimir Oblast. [passage omitted]

[Signed] S.L. Sokolov, S.F. Akhromeyev, V.G. Kulikov, A.D. Lizichev, Ye.F. Ivanovskiy, D.T. Yazov, G.I. Salmanov, G.Ye. Peredel'skiy, P.N. Kuleshov, V.M. Mikhalkin, V.Ya. Abolins, M.I. Druzhinin, F.F. Gayvoronskiy, M.D. Sidorov, L.S. Sapkov, and Yu.I. Shumilikhin.

VII. WESTERN EUROPE DAILY REPORT

Contents unchanged

VIII. SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA DAILY
REPORT

Renamed; formerly SOUTH ASIA DAILY
REPORT; contents include:

International Affairs

Inter-African Affairs

Central Africa

Burundi

Cameroon

Central African Republic

Congo

Equatorial Guinea

Gabon

Rwanda

Sao Tome & Principe

Zaire

East Africa

Djibouti

Ethiopia

Kenya

Somalia

Tanzania

Uganda

Indian Ocean

Comoros

Madagascar

Mauritius

Seychelles

Southern Africa

Angola

Botswana

Lesotho

Malawi

Mozambique

Namibia

Republic of South Africa

Reunion

Swaziland

Zambia

Zimbabwe

Western Africa

Benin

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